



Independent Audit No.4

Crudine Ridge Wind Farm

SSD-6697

August 2025



Audit Details

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Inherent Limitations

*This Report has been prepared at the request of CRWF Nominees Pty Ltd as trustee for CRWF Trust (**CRWF**) in the Scope Section of KPMG's engagement letter dated 10th June 2025.*

The services provided in connection with this engagement comprise an advisory engagement, which is not subject to assurance or other standards issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and, consequently no opinions or conclusions intended to convey assurance have been expressed.

Due to the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Further, the internal control structure, within which the control procedures that have been subject to the procedures we performed operate, has not been reviewed in its entirety and, therefore, no opinion or view is expressed as to its effectiveness of the greater internal control structure. The procedures performed were not designed to detect all weaknesses in control procedures as they are not performed continuously throughout the period and the tests performed on the control procedures are on sample basis. Any projection of the evaluation of control procedures to future periods is subject to the risk that the procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with them may deteriorate.

No warranty of completeness, accuracy or reliability is given in relation to the statements and representations made by, and the information and documentation provided by CRWF employees consulted as part of the process.

KPMG has indicated within this Report the sources of the information provided. We have not sought to independently verify those sources unless otherwise noted within the Report.

KPMG is under no obligation in any circumstance to update this Report, in either oral or written form, for events occurring after the Report has been issued in final form.

The findings in this Report have been formed on the above basis.

Third Party Reliance

This Report is solely for the purpose set out in the Audit Objectives and Scope Section and for CRWF's information and is not to be used for any other purpose or distributed to any other party without KPMG's prior written consent.

This Report has been prepared at the request of CRWF, in accordance with the terms of KPMG's engagement letter dated 10th June 2025. Other than our responsibility to CRWF Nominees, neither KPMG nor any member or employee of KPMG undertakes responsibility arising in any way from reliance placed by a third party. Any reliance placed is that party's sole responsibility.

Executive Summary

Background

KPMG was engaged by CRWF Nominees Pty Ltd (CRWF), to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) at the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm project (the Project), located near Pyramul, NSW, approximately 45km south of Mudgee and 45km north of Bathurst. The IEA was undertaken in accordance with the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements 2020* (IAPAR 2020) as required by condition of approval (CoA) 5-8 of State Significant Development (SSD-6697).

This was the fourth IEA to be undertaken at the Site, and was required to be commissioned within three years of the previous IEA. The audit period was defined as being from the date of the previous IEA (22 July 2022) to the date of the current IEA (8 July 2025) (hereinafter referred to as the audit or the IEA).

The Project commenced construction in May 2018 and formally commenced operation of all wind turbine generators (WTGs) on 20 December 2021. No construction related activities were undertaken on the Project during the audit period. The IEA therefore sought to assess the implementation of operational elements of the CoAs and management plan requirements.

Based on the evidence provided, the observations made and compliance findings of the audit, the Project is considered to have demonstrated good environmental performance during the audit period. Two (2) non-compliances were identified; however, these are linked to each other, were self-reported and were administrative in nature, with no associated environmental impacts. No further action is required in relation to the non-compliances. No issues were identified during the site inspection and no environmental incidents or complaints had been recorded. The CRWF site operations and management teams are considered to have demonstrated a strong awareness of their environmental obligations, including management plan requirements and relevant SSD-6697 CoAs. Three (3) recommendations have been provided for CRWF's consideration.

Site Inspection

No issues were identified during the site inspection.

Audit Findings

Table E.1: Summary of Audit Findings

Reference	Requirement Details	Finding Details	Status
Non-compliance CRWF-04_NC-1	2-2 Terms of Consent The Applicant shall carry out the development: generally in accordance with the EA; and	Considering the non-compliance raised against CoA 3-13 (refer to the finding below), this triggers an additional non-compliance against CoA 2-2.	Closed

Reference	Requirement Details	Finding Details	Status
	a) in accordance with the conditions of this consent.	As stated in CoA 3-13, the Auditor considers that the non-compliance was resolved on 12 October 2022 when the noise compliance testing report was submitted to DPHI. Recommendation: Nil	
Self-reported Non-compliance. CRWF-04_NC-2	3-13 Noise Monitoring Within 3 months of the commencement of operations, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Applicant shall: (a) undertake noise monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent; and (b) submit a copy of the monitoring results to the Department and the EPA.	Operations commenced 20 December 2021, consequently noise compliance testing report was originally due in March 2022, although DPHI granted an extension until 1 September 2022. The noise compliance testing report was submitted to DPHI on 12 October 2022, exceeding the DPHI-approved extension deadline. The Auditor considers that the non-compliance was resolved on 12 October 2022 when the noise compliance testing report was submitted to DPHI. Recommendation: Nil	Closed
Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-1	3-19 Biodiversity - Operating Conditions The Applicant shall: a) ensure, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, that no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.7 hectares of Box Gum Woodland is cleared for the development, including the 0.95 hectares that would be cleared for the Aarons Pass Road upgrades; 	Clearance limits were audited by a consultant during the construction phase and reported in a final vegetation clearing report to demonstrate compliance with approved limits. While additional clearing is not expected to be required during the operational phase, there may be ad-hoc instances where isolated clearing is required in areas not previously cleared during construction as part of maintenance activities. Recommendation: There is an opportunity for the project to develop an operational phase vegetation clearance tracker to 'draw down' on residual approved limits. The tracker should be maintained as a live document to be able to validate current total clearance amounts and demonstrate ongoing compliance during operations.	Open
Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-2	3-23 Biodiversity Management Plan - Implementation Following approval, the Applicant must implement the measures described in the Biodiversity Management Plan. <i>Biodiversity Management Plan Table 11 (Weed and Pest management Measures)</i> requires the installation bait/traps around building assets to control rat/mice.	The audit observed that rat/rodent traps were not currently employed at the buildings although there had been recent reports of rodent activity. During the audit, CRWF advised that rodent traps were in the process of being procured and deployed to manage the issue. Recommendation: Install rodent traps as soon as practicable to avoid potential rodent infestations which would attract birds to site and may result in increased levels of bird strikes.	Open

Reference	Requirement Details	Finding Details	Status*
Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-3	<p>5-2 Environmental Management Strategy - Implementation</p> <p>Following approval, the Applicant shall implement the Environmental Management Strategy.</p> <p><i>EMS Section 6.2.1 (Site Induction)</i> states "All staff and contractors working on site will be required to undertake a site induction prior to commencing work on the site. Inductions will address the requirements of this EMS and highlight the relevant roles and responsibilities.</p> <p><i>EMS Section 6.2.2 (Environmental Training)</i> states "Targeted environmental training will be conducted for key operational tasks or work areas that are considered particularly sensitive e.g. site access and biodiversity management. The environmental training content will be developed by Project Environment Officer in consultation with the Site Manager"</p>	<p>The Auditor observed that the current Site Induction does not include all relevant sections of the EMS, such as fauna and flora and heritage management.</p> <p>The Auditor also noted that biodiversity-specific training had not been delivered by CRWF during the audit.</p> <p>The CRWF team clarified that most operational activities undertaken by General Electric (GE) relate to turbine maintenance, which has not involved ground disturbance and therefore has not triggered the need for biodiversity-specific training. Pollution risks, particularly spills, were considered the primary operational environmental risk, and biennial spill response training was provided (most recently in January 2025). Environmental awareness topics, including relevant sensitivities, were addressed through toolbox talks. The CRWF operations team also noted that biodiversity-specific briefings were planned for upcoming ground disturbance works, such as powerline easement clearing, with ecological input to define no-go zones.</p> <p>Recommendation: Update the Site Induction training to incorporate all relevant environmental aspects, including biodiversity protocols and a summary of key compliance requirements such as the SSD, EPL and EPBC approvals</p> <p>Consider implementing an environmental awareness training program for all GE and CRWF employees to raise awareness of key requirements such as biodiversity management requirements.</p>	Open

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

KPMG was engaged by CRWF Nominees Pty Ltd (CRWF), to undertake an Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) at the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm project (the Project) located near Pyramul, NSW, approximately 45km south of Mudgee and 45km north of Bathurst. The IEA was undertaken in accordance with the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements 2020* (IAPAR 2020) as required by condition of approval (CoA) 5-8 of State Significant Development (SSD-6697).

This was the fourth IEA to be undertaken at the Site and was required to be commissioned within three years of the previous IEA. The audit period was defined as being from the date of the previous IEA (22 July 2022) to the date of the current IEA (8 July 2025) (hereinafter referred to as the audit or the IEA).

The IEA sought to assess and provide findings on compliance with the Project's SSD Consent (SSD-6697) CoAs and to assess the implementation and effectiveness of the Project's operational environmental management plans in accordance with the methodology outlined within the IAPAR 2020.

Any references to 'audit', 'independent', 'review' and / or 'verification' in this report have not been used in the context of its respective meaning under assurance, audit and other standards issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. As such, no opinions or conclusions intended to convey assurance, or an audit opinion, have been expressed in this report.

The evidence used to test the compliance status with respect to each CoA has been documented in Appendix A with a summary of audit findings and recommendations provided in Section 4.13.

1.2 Project Details

The Project was approved by the Minister of the Planning in May 2016 and holds an SSD Consent (SSD-6697) for the construction, operation and decommissioning of up to 37 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and ancillary infrastructure including an operations and maintenance facility, a substation, access roads and approximately 15km of overhead transmission line. The substation was constructed by CRWF on behalf of TransGrid, which is the owner and operator. TransGrid has responsibility for the operation and management of the substation, consistent with its duties as the asset owner and operator under relevant regulatory frameworks.

Since its initial approval in May 2016, the Project has been subject to three (3) planning approval modifications, approved in June 2019 (Mod-1), May 2020 (Mod-2) and September 2020 (Mod-3). The modifications generally involved the reduction in approved WTGs and a revised design for access roads and associated biodiversity offset requirements.

The Project commenced construction in May 2018 and formally commenced operation of all WTGs on 20 December 2021. No construction related activities were undertaken on the Project during the audit

period. The IEA therefore sought to assess the implementation of operational elements of the CoAs and management plan requirements.

1.3 Audit Team

In accordance with CoA 5-8 (a) of SSD-6697 and the IAPAR 2020, Independent Auditors must be suitably qualified, experienced and independent of the Project, and endorsed by the Planning Secretary prior to each IEA. Details of the KPMG audit team for this audit are as follows:

Table 1.1: Audit Team Details

Name	Company Title	Audit Position	Certifications
Dylan Jones	KPMG Director	Lead Auditor	Exemplar Global Lead Environmental Auditor – Certificate No. C-464532 M. Environmental Engineering Management B. Environmental Science & Management Certified Environmental Practitioner (CEnvP) Infrastructure Sustainability Accredited Professional (ISAP)
Gary Selwyn	KPMG Partner	Alternate Lead Auditor and Technical Reviewer	Principal Environmental Auditor – Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA) MSc. Environmental Science BSc (Hons). Biological Sciences
Manya Narain	KPMG Consultant	Audit Team Member / Assistant	B. Biomedical Engineering (Hons)

Endorsement of the Audit Team was provided by DPHI on 3 June 2025 (refer to the Planning Secretary Audit Team Endorsement presented in Appendix B).

2 Audit Objectives and Scope

2.1 Audit Objectives

The objective of this audit was to satisfy SSD-6697 CoA 5-8 by undertaking an independent assessment of environmental performance and compliance against the Project's conditions of approval and environmental mitigation measures. Condition 5-8 (a1) states that *Audits must be prepared in accordance with the relevant Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (DPE 2018, or its latest version)*. The DPHI auditor endorsement letter confirmed that the audit must be undertaken in accordance with IAPAR 2020.

2.2 Audit Scope

The scope of the audit included undertaking an assessment of compliance against the project's conditions of approval of SSD-6697 Schedule 2, 3, 4 and 5 as they apply to the operational status of the Project throughout the audit period.

An overview of the audit scope undertaken by the KPMG audit team includes the following:

- Review the implementation of management plans, including:
 - Environmental Management Strategy Rev 11, dated 1 November 2022.
 - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Rev 6, dated 18 June 2024.
 - Operational Biodiversity Management Plan, Rev 6, dated 28 February 2024
 - Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan, Rev 2.6, dated November 2017
 - Traffic Management Plan, Rev B, dated 25 June 2024.
- Site inspection conducted on 8 July 2025:
 - A high-level assessment of the effectiveness of environmental management plans.
 - Assess general environmental performance.
 - Review of records.
 - Interviews with site personnel.
- Conduct audit interviews at the CRWF site office.

The audit scope did not include an assessment of compliance against the project's Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 21090), or its Approval made under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC 2011/6206 Approval), as this is not required by the IAPAR 2020.

2.3 Audit Period

This is the fourth IEA undertaken on the Project and was designed to cover all activities from the date of the third audit to the date the following IEA was conducted. The audit period was therefore defined as the period between **22 July 2022 to 8 July 2025**.

3 Audit Methodology

3.1 Endorsement of the Audit Team

The KPMG Audit team included:

- Dylan Jones – Lead Auditor;
- Gary Selwyn - Alternate Lead Auditor / Technical Reviewer; and,
- Manya Narain – Audit Team Member / Assistant.

Endorsement of the Audit Team was provided by DPHI on 3 June 2025 (refer to the Planning Secretary Audit Team Endorsement presented in Appendix B).

3.2 Audit Process

The following sections describe the processes that comprised the IEA, with site inspection and personnel interview components completed on 8 July 2025, followed by additional document reviews, consultation and reporting. The IEA process was aligned with the principles of *ISO 19011:2018 Guidelines for Auditing Management Systems* and the IAPAR 2020 requirements.

3.2.1 Audit Preparation

A kick off meeting was held between KPMG and CRWF on 20 June 2025, ahead of the audit. The kick off meeting was used to establish project objectives, confirm dates, timelines and methods of communication. Following the kick off meeting the Lead Auditor prepared an Audit Plan/Agenda and Request for Information documents, which were distributed to the CRWF team in preparation for the IEA (refer to Appendix E for the Audit Agenda). Upon receipt of documents from CRWF and via review of documents publicly available on the Squadron Energy CRWF project website, document assessment (refer to Section 3.2.6) commenced in advance of the audit.

3.2.2 Consultation

In accordance with Section 3.2 of the IAPAR 2020, and CoA 5-8 (b), consultation request emails were sent to DPHI, the NSW Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Midwestern Council and Bathurst Council, to identify focus areas for the audit or other matters that the Auditor should be made aware of.

DPHI responded and requested that the audit review the management of biodiversity, rehabilitation, landscaping, lighting and noise. No additional stakeholder consultation was requested by DPHI.

The NSW EPA responded advising that they had “no specific comments regarding the audit scope, noting that the Premises undertakes scheduled activities in accordance with Schedule 1 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* under conditions provided by Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 21090”.

At the time of finalising this audit report no responses had been received from the two (2) Councils.

KPMG Response:

The audit scope included an assessment of all matters raised by DPHI. 'DPHI focus areas' are identified against the corresponding CoA within Appendix A, with detailed descriptions of observations included. An additional description of these impacts is also provided in Section 4.10.

Refer to Appendix C for consultation records.

3.2.3 Opening Meeting

An opening meeting was held on site on 8 July 2025 with representatives from the CRWF site operations and management teams, as per the Audit Attendance Sheet (refer to Appendix F). During the opening meeting the Auditor outlined the objective and the process of the IEA. CRWF provided the Auditor with a summary of current and historical site activities including an overview of the specific WTG operations. Key matters such as any environmental incidents, non-compliances, environmental issues and risks and stakeholder interactions were discussed.

3.2.4 Site Inspection

A site inspection was undertaken on 8 July 2025 at the CRWF site with representatives from the CRWF environmental management and site operations teams. The site inspection was used to understand the nature of the operations and the extent to which environmental controls were implemented and managed across the site. The Auditor was provided full access to all areas requested for inspection.

Refer to details of the site inspection in Section 4.9 and photographs provided in Appendix D.

3.2.5 Interviews

Interviews were held with key personnel from the CRWF site operations and management teams. These interviews were focused on the management of environmental aspects, and, where areas of concern may exist, what proposed means of risk control are undertaken and proposed to account for these concerns. Additionally, the interviews assisted the Auditor to understand the nature of the activities undertaken at the sites and to identify focus areas for the audit. Table 3.1 provides details of the personnel interviewed during the IEA.

Table 3.1: Personnel Interviewed

Name	Organisation	Position
Zeina Jokadar	Squadron Energy	Environmental Advisor
Kacee Milnes	Squadron Energy	Operations Manager

3.2.6 Document Assessment

Documentation relevant to the audit scope was collected and assessed by the audit team as evidence of compliance with a CoA. This included, but was not limited to, management plans, site induction forms and presentations, monitoring and sampling records, correspondence, emergency response plans, plant and equipment maintenance registers and pre-approval documentation such as the Environmental Assessment (EA). Refer to Appendix H for a full list of documents reviewed as part of the IEA.

3.2.7 Closing Meeting

A closing meeting was held on 9 July 2025 at 2:30pm virtually over Microsoft Teams. During the closing meeting the Lead Auditor presented the preliminary audit findings, including any identified potential non-compliances and opportunities for improvement. Where identified, additional documentary evidence was requested by the Audit team following the closing meeting to enable further assessment of compliance.

3.3 Compliance Evaluation

Considering the evidence gathered during audit execution, the IEA assessed and tested the compliance status of each CoA in the Audit Table, through application of the compliance descriptors detailed in *Table 2* of the IAPAR, as listed in *Table 3.2*.

Table 3.2: Compliance descriptors from Table 2 of the IAPAR

Status	Description
Compliant	The Auditor has collected sufficient verifiable evidence to demonstrate that all elements of the requirement have been complied with within the scope of the audit.
Non-Compliant	The Auditor has determined that one or more specific elements of the conditions or requirements have not been complied with within the scope of the audit. ¹
Not Triggered	A requirement has an activation or timing trigger that has not been met at the time when the audit is undertaken, therefore an assessment of compliance is not relevant.

¹ This includes non-compliances that occurred at some point within the audit period and were subsequently rectified, self-reported, and closed prior to the date of the audit.

Where appropriate, the Auditor also identified opportunities for improvement and provided recommendations for CRWF's consideration, details of which are provided in Section 4.13 and Appendix A.

4 Audit Findings

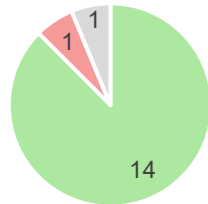
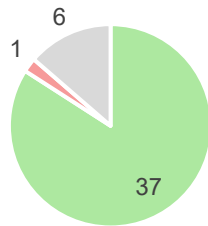
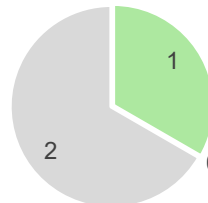
4.1 Approvals and Documents Audited

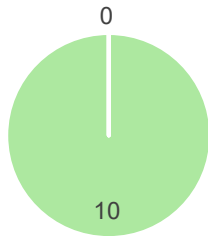
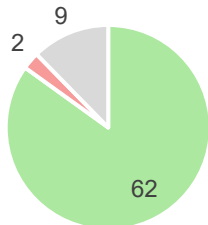
Refer to Appendix H for details of the primary documents assessed as part of the IEA.

4.2 Compliance Assessment Summary

The Project was audited against 73 Conditions of Approval (CoA), with two (2) non-compliances identified. An assessment of each CoA is provided in Appendix A and summarised in *Table 4.1*. Details of the non-compliances are provided in Section 4.13.

Table 4.1: Compliance assessment summary

Part (total number of conditions)	Summary	
Schedule 2 - Administrative Conditions (16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant - 14 Non-Compliant - 1 Not Triggered - 1 	
Schedule 3 – Environmental Conditions (44)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant - 37 Non-Compliant - 1 Not Triggered - 6 	
Schedule 4 – Additional Procedures (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant - 1 Non-Compliant - 0 Not Triggered - 2 	

Part (total number of conditions)	Summary	
Schedule 5 – Environmental Management, Reporting and Auditing (10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant - 10 Non-Compliant - 0 Not Triggered - 0 	
Total - (73)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant - 62 Non-Compliant - 2 Not Triggered - 9 	

4.3 Notices, Orders, Penalty Notices and Prosecutions

Based on the documentation assessed by the audit team, no formal notices, orders, penalty notices or prosecutions associated with SSD-6697 were issued by DPHI or from other regulators (e.g., NSW EPA, Council etc.) during the audit period.

4.4 Incidents

There were no notifiable incidents, as defined by the development consent, during the audit period.

4.5 Complaints

A Complaints Register is maintained monthly and is available on the Squadron Energy CRWF project website. Sighting of the Complaints Register identified that no complaints were received, or recorded, during the audit period. At the time of the audit there was one (1) open complaint, raised on 7 April 2022 and relating to WTG noise. The audit team understands that details of the open complaint are commercial-in-confidence and that the matter is in the process of being resolved.

4.6 Non-compliances

The IEA identified two (2) non-compliances during the audit period, one (1) of which had been self-reported by CRWF and the second was raised in relation to the self-reported non-compliance. Both

non-compliances were administrative and are not likely to result in any actual environmental impacts. Details of the non-compliances identified during the IEA are listed in Section 4.13.

4.7 Previous Audit Findings

The previous audit *Independent Audit No. 3* report, dated 12 September 2022, did not identify any non-compliances. However, five (5) recommendations were raised, as outlined in *Table 4.2*.

Table 4.2: Previous audit findings

Condition	Issue	Recommendation	Status as assessed during the audit
5-1	Environmental Management strategy was prepared at the commencement of construction and is heavily focussed on construction activities	Review and update the environmental management strategy so it focusses on key operational environmental issues. The review should include updating site environmental checklists if required.	Following IEA #3 the Environmental Management Strategy was updated to focus on operational activities. Closed
3-14	Weeds are to be controlled in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan	Monitor the ongoing effectiveness of project rehabilitation works on an ongoing basis, noting the potential for dieback during drought conditions	The Auditor identified that weeds were being actively monitored via the monthly inspections undertaken by the operations team, in addition to every 6 months by the Environmental Advisor with a focus on weed management and ERSED controls, as per the Biodiversity Management Plan. A weed contractor has been engaged to routinely spray weeds as part of a maintenance schedule. The Auditor observed that rehabilitation of disturbed areas was occurring and is also included in monthly inspections. Closed
3-13	Operational Noise testing and report	Complete the operational noise testing report and communicate results to complainants.	The operational noise validation report was completed and issued to DPHI on 12 October 2022 and is available on the CWRF project website. Closed
3-20	Biodiversity offsets	Complete obligations relating to biodiversity offsets as a priority	The Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement for the Biodiversity Offset Area had been executed and all biodiversity offsets credits have been retired. Closed
3-22	Weeds are to be controlled in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan	Monitor weed distribution particularly in the upcoming spring and summer months adapt control strategies to ensure uncontrolled proliferation does not occur.	The Auditor identified that weeds were being monitored via the monthly inspections undertaken by the operations team and that a weed contractor was engaged to routinely spray weeds as part of a maintenance schedule.

			<p>The Auditor observed that rehabilitation of disturbed areas was occurring and was also included in monthly inspections.</p> <p>Closed</p>
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4.8 Suitability of Environmental Management Plans

The Project is managed in accordance with the following management plans:

- Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) Rev 11, dated 1 November 2022.
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP), Rev 6, dated 18 June 2024.
- Operational Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP), Rev 6, dated 28 February 2024.
- Traffic Management Plan (TMP), Rev B, dated 25 June 2024.
- Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP), Rev 2.6, dated November 2017.

The Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) is the overarching management plan for the Project, supported by topic-specific management plans. Appendix C of the EMS contains environmental mitigation measures for air quality, noise, waste and telecommunications. Visual impacts are managed in accordance with CoA 3-3, as described within Section 6.4.3 of the EMS. Mitigation measures for heritage, bird and bat strikes, biodiversity and traffic are included in their respective management plans. All management plans have been approved by DPHI and, where required by the planning approval, prepared in consultation with relevant agencies. Refer to CoA 2-15 in Appendix A for details of DPHI approval letters.

Following the third IEA, the EMS, CHMP, BMP and TMP were updated to remove construction related matters and to focus on the operational status of the site.

When assessing the suitability of management plans, the Auditor undertook a high-level gap assessment of the EMS against the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, *Post Approval Guidance, Environmental Management Plan Guideline* requirements (April 2020). The high-level assessment found that the operational EMS contained all the relevant requirements from the guideline including identification of requirements, targets, objectives and controls, roles and responsibilities, and commitments to continuous improvement (monitoring, reporting and corrective actions).

The Auditor tested implementation of the EMS and management plans via review of documentation, interviews and via the site inspection, with no major issues raised or non-compliances identified.

It was noted that the current approved Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP) was updated in 2024, including a change to the operational phase monitoring program and was submitted to DPHI in January 2025 for approval, following consultation and agreement by the Biodiversity, Conservation and Science (BCS) Directorate (now known as the Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulations Group (CPHR)). The change occurred in response to recommendations provided in the *BBAMP Implementation Report (Year Two), Rev 3, dated 11 August 2023, prepared by Eco Logical*,

including recommendations for ongoing monitoring focused on Wedge-tailed Eagle, other raptor species, and bats, on a seasonal basis rather than monthly.

A revised BBAMP monitoring program was agreed to by BCS in a letter to CRWF, dated 16 August 2023. DPHI noted the recommended changes to the BBAMP monitoring program within DPHI letter to CRWF, dated 5 September 2023 (ref: SSD-6697-PA-40), issued in response to the BBAMP Year 2 report.

CRWF has subsequently been implementing the revised monitoring program agreed to by DPHI and BCS while the updated BBAMP is in the process of being approved by DPHI. Section 4.7.1 of the current approved BBAMP outlines an adaptive approach to monitoring and states "As this management plan is adaptive, further refinements to the program will be included in annual reports following the first year of operational phase monitoring and will be based on the outcomes of monitoring surveys and any impacts, in consultation with State and Commonwealth agencies". On this basis, the Auditor considers that the current approved BBAMP is being implemented and that the revised monitoring program is appropriate and has been agreed to by relevant agencies.

In general, the Auditor considers that the EMS and management plans have been prepared to an appropriate standard and capture the requirements of the planning approval and best practice principles. The Auditor therefore considers that the management plans address the current phase of the Project.

4.9 Audit Site Inspection

A site inspection was undertaken on 8 July 2025, starting at approximately 9am. At the time of the inspection weather conditions were mild and overcast. The objective of the site inspection was to review the effectiveness of the environmental mitigation measures implemented at the Site and to assess environmental performance generally.

The CRWF Environmental Advisor and Operations Manager accompanied the Auditor during the site inspection and were interviewed during the process. Areas inspected included:

- Main site entrance on Aarons Road.
- Operations and maintenance (O&M) compound including storage sheds.
- Substation and overhead transmission lines.
- Representative WTGs.
- Internal access roads.
- Former disturbed surfaces subject to rehabilitation.

All areas were made accessible to the Auditor upon request.

No issues were raised by the Auditor during the inspection, with the following observations made:

- O&M compound presented neat and tidy, with dedicated oil storage areas with spill kits provided (Photos 2, 4, 5 and 6).
- Waste segregation with dedicated bins (Photo 7).
- Internal access road in good condition with only isolated areas of minor erosion noted (Photo 10, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 19).
- Evidence of weed control (herbicide use).
- Erosion and sediment (ERSED) controls employed and included rock-lined swale drains and culverts, rock dams, rip rap and sediment basins (Photo 10, 11, 12 and 13).
- Progressive rehabilitation of previously disturbed surfaces was observed (Photo 16 and 18).
- Fences on CRWF and adjacent private property boundaries in good condition.
- No mud tracking on public roads

Refer to Appendix D for additional photographs taken during the site inspection.

4.10 Actual versus Predicted Environmental Impacts

The Auditor has undertaken a qualitative assessment of the predicted impacts associated with the Project, as described within the following documentation, against the actual impacts observed during the audit process:

- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Environmental Assessment, Volume 1, December 2012 (EA);
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Response to Submissions, January 2019 (RtS);
- Modification Report 1, November 2018;
- Modification Report 2, April 2020; and
- Modification Report 3, August 2020.

Chapters 8 to 19 of the EA contain a summarised assessment of the predicted impacts of each environmental aspects identified in the Department of Planning and Infrastructure Director General's Requirements (DGRs). The EA is supported by several technical assessments, included as an appendix. The summarised assessments within the EA were used by the Auditor as a comparison against actual impacts.

When assessing actual impacts the following factors were considered:

- The occurrence of environmental incidents.
- Compliance history against the conditions of consent and adherence to the approved management plan requirements.
- Results of environmental monitoring data compared to predicted levels.
- Number and frequency of internal actions raised during site inspections.
- The nature and frequency of complaints.

- Regulatory notices and actions.
- The physical extent of the Project's operations compared to the approved boundaries.
- Consistency of designs with the EA.
- Any planning approval modifications or consistency assessments.
- Appropriate implementation of environmental mitigation measures.

It is beyond the scope of this IEA to investigate each of the detailed studies and predictions undertaken as part of the EA to make comparisons against actual measurements. As such, a qualitative assessment of key aspects has been undertaken, in respect to the operational status of the project.

Landscape and visual

The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) determined that of 32 viewpoints surrounding the Project, ten will have a low visual impact, eleven will have a moderate visual impact and nine will have a high visual impact.

The revised project included a reduction from 77 to 37 WTGs. The height of the WTGs is consistent with approved limits (<160 m). The final layout plan depicts that WTGs are consistent with the locations included in Appendix 2 of the planning approval.

Noise

An operational noise compliance assessment was completed in 2022 by acoustic consultant Sonus, including noise monitoring at residential receiver locations. The noise assessment determined that "residential logging locations meet the relevant criteria of the Project Approval Conditions when assessed in accordance with the NCTP. Therefore, the Wind Farm can be considered to be in compliance with the Project Approval Conditions". The noise assessment also concluded that there was no excessive component of low tonality or low frequency to the noise profile, and that noise from ancillary infrastructure complied with the criteria in the conditions of approval.

Biodiversity

Total ground disturbance clearance during the construction phase was subject to audits by environmental consultants ERM and Zenviron, who reconciled actual clearance to be less than the limits allowed in the planning approval. ERM stated that they were able to reduce the approved clearing of native woodland by 0.78 ha for PCT 290 and 0.39 for PCT 277 ha along Aarons Pass Road. There is minimal clearing required during the operational phase of the project, which includes maintenance clearing within existing disturbed footprints of the access roads, and internal transmission line easements. All biodiversity credits have been retired, and a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement has been executed for the project's biodiversity offset area.

The Auditor noted that passive rehabilitation was occurring to previously disturbed areas via monitoring and controlling erosion and in some instances actively applying seeds.

The EA described the risk to avifauna during the operational phase and acknowledged that birds and bats were at risk of collision with WTGs, however estimations of rates of mortalities were not included within the EA. The annual BBAMP monitoring reports confirmed that raptors including wedge tailed eagle (WTE) mortalities had been recorded at the Project, with the risk rating for WTEs being upgraded from Moderate to High in 2024. Ongoing monitoring of WTEs, other raptors, and bats is required and is being undertaken in accordance with the recently revised BBAMP monitoring program.

General

The Auditor noted that mitigation measures were generally being suitably implemented in accordance with approved management plans. No issues were noted that would indicate actual impacts being greater than those detailed within the EA.

The project has been subject to three (3) planning modifications since its original approval. However, these are not considered to have resulted in significant additional environmental impacts as they related to a reduction in WTGs, reductions of access roads and minor adjustments of the project boundary.

Based on the assessment of the environmental impacts identified in the EA compared to actual impacts observed during the audit, the Auditor considers that current environmental impacts would likely be considered less than or equal to those anticipated within the EA.

4.11 Previous Compliance Reporting Recommendations

Compliance reports are not a requirement of the SSD-6697 planning approval.

4.12 Summary of Environmental Performance

Based on the evidence provided, the observations made and compliance findings of this audit, the Project is considered to have demonstrated good environmental performance during the audit period. Two (2) non-compliances were identified; however, these are linked to each other, were self-reported and were administrative in nature, with no associated environmental impacts. No further action is required in relation to the non-compliances. No issues were identified during the site inspection and no environmental incidents or complaints had been recorded. The CWRF site operations and management teams were considered to demonstrate a strong awareness of their environmental obligations, including management plan requirements and relevant SSD-6697 CoAs. Three (3) recommendations have been provided for CWRF's consideration.

The following key strengths are noted:

- A compliance tracking register is used to provide a comprehensive and easily accessible history of events and activities for each requirement, including key dates and documented outcomes.
- A local maintenance contractor has been engaged and is understood to have fostered strong relationships with landowners with whom CRWF holds lease agreements. This has reportedly enabled effective communication, such as timely reporting of feral animal sightings.

- The onsite Operations Manager undertakes monthly site inspections, including use of a checklist tool to review the implementation and effectiveness of environmental controls and raise corrective actions for the maintenance contractors. These inspections are supported by 6-monthly inspections undertaken by the Environmental Advisor.
- Passive rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces is being successfully supported through consistent monitoring and maintenance of weed encroachment and ERSED controls.
- ERSED controls, including rock-lined roadside swale drains, rip-rap around culverts, and sediment basins, were well maintained. Evidence of recent ERSED maintenance was observed, with minimal erosion present on roadways.

The Auditor thanks the CRWF team for their cooperation during the IEA process.

4.13 Audit Findings and Recommendations

Independent Audit findings were based on evidence collected during the audit process, which included:

- Relevant records, documents and reports (refer to Appendix A and Appendix H).
- Interviews of relevant site personnel (refer to Section 3.2.5 and Appendix A).
- Photographs (refer to Appendix D).
- Figures and plans (refer to Appendix A and Appendix H).
- Site inspections of relevant locations, activities and processes (refer to Section 4.9).

Two (2) non-compliances (NCs), and three (3) opportunities for improvement (OFIs) were identified during the Audit. However, the NCs had been self-reported and are considered administrative in nature and not likely to result in any actual environmental impacts.

A summary of Audit Findings is provided in *Table 4.3* below.

Table 4.3: Summary of Audit Findings

Reference	Requirement Details	Finding Details	Status
Non-compliance CRWF-04_NC-1	2-2 Terms of Consent The Applicant shall carry out the development: generally in accordance with the EA; and b) in accordance with the conditions of this consent.	Considering the non-compliance raised against CoA 3-13 (refer to finding below), this triggers an additional non-compliance against CoA 2-2. As stated in CoA 3-13, the Auditor considers that the non-compliance was resolved on 12 October 2022 when the noise compliance testing monitoring report was submitted to DPHI. Recommendation: Nil	Closed

Reference	Requirement Details	Finding Details	Status
Self-reported Non-compliance. CRWF-04_NC-2	3-13 Noise Monitoring Within 3 months of the commencement of operations, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Applicant shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) undertake noise monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent; and (d) submit a copy of the monitoring results to the Department and the EPA. 	<p>Operations commenced 20 December 2021, consequently noise compliance testing report was originally due in March 2022, although DPHI granted an extension until 1 September 2022.</p> <p>The noise compliance testing report was submitted to DPHI on 12 October 2022, exceeding the DPHI-approved extension deadline.</p> <p>The Auditor considers that the non-compliance was resolved on 12 October 2022 when the noise compliance testing report was submitted to DPHI.</p> <p>Recommendation: Nil</p>	Closed
Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-1	3-19 Biodiversity - Operating Conditions The Applicant shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) ensure, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, that no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.7 hectares of Box Gum Woodland is cleared for the development, including the 0.95 hectares that would be cleared for the Aarons Pass Road upgrades; 	<p>Clearance limits were audited by a consultant during the construction phase and reported in a final vegetation clearing report to demonstrate compliance with approved limits. While additional clearing is not expected to be required during the operational phase, there may be ad-hoc instances where isolated clearing is required in areas not previously cleared during construction as part of maintenance activities.</p> <p>Recommendation: There is an opportunity for the project to develop an operational phase vegetation clearance tracker to 'draw down' on residual approved limits. The tracker should be maintained as a live document to be able to validate current total clearance amounts and demonstrate ongoing compliance during operations.</p>	Open
Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-2	3-23 Biodiversity Management Plan - Implementation Following approval, the Applicant must implement the measures described in the Biodiversity Management Plan. <i>Biodiversity Management Plan Table 11 (Weed and Pest management Measures)</i> requires the installation bait/traps around building assets to control rat/mice.	<p>The audit observed that rat/rodent traps were not currently employed at the buildings although there had been recent reports of rodent activity. During the audit, CRWF advised that rodent traps were in the process of being procured and deployed to manage the issue.</p> <p>Recommendation: Install rodent traps as soon as practicable to avoid potential rodent infestations which would attract birds to site and may result in increased levels of bird strikes.</p>	Open
Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-3	5-2 Environmental Management Strategy - Implementation Following approval, the Applicant shall implement the Environmental Management Strategy.	<p>The Auditor observed that the current Site Induction does not include all relevant sections of the EMS, such as fauna and flora and heritage management.</p>	Open

Reference	Requirement Details	Finding Details	Status*
	<p><i>EMS Section 6.2.1 (Site Induction)</i> states "All staff and contractors working on site will be required to undertake a site induction prior to commencing work on the site. Inductions will address the requirements of this EMS and highlight the relevant roles and responsibilities.</p> <p><i>EMS Section 6.2.2 (Environmental Training)</i> states "Targeted environmental training will be conducted for key operational tasks or work areas that are considered particularly sensitive e.g. site access and biodiversity management. The environmental training content will be developed by Project Environment Officer in consultation with the Site Manager"</p>	<p>The Auditor also noted that biodiversity-specific training had not been delivered by CRWF during the audit.</p> <p>The CRWF team clarified that most operational activities undertaken by General Electric (GE) relate to turbine maintenance, which has not involved ground disturbance and therefore has not triggered the need for biodiversity-specific training. Pollution risks, particularly spills, were considered the primary operational environmental risk, and biennial spill response training was provided (most recently in January 2025). Environmental awareness topics, including relevant sensitivities, were addressed through toolbox talks. The CRWF operations team also noted that biodiversity-specific briefings were planned for upcoming ground disturbance works, such as powerline easement clearing, with ecological input to define no-go zones.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Update the Site Induction training to incorporate all relevant environmental aspects, including biodiversity protocols and a summary of key compliance requirements such as the SSD, EPL and EPBC approvals</p> <p>Consider implementing an environmental awareness training program for all GE and CRWF employees to raise awareness of key requirements such as biodiversity management requirements.</p>	

* Status of the finding at the time of audit report finalisation.



Appendix A – Audit Compliance Table

Appendix A – Audit Compliance Table

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
Schedule 2: Administrative Conditions				
2-1	OBLIGATION TO MINIMISE HARM TO THE ENVIRONMENT In addition to meeting the specific environmental performance criteria established under this consent, the Applicant shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to prevent and/or minimise any material harm to the environment that may result from the construction, operation, or decommissioning of the development.	Reasonable and feasible mitigation measures were considered to be adequate, including the ongoing monitoring and, where required, corrective actions being raised.		Compliant
2-2	TERMS OF CONSENT The Applicant shall carry out the development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) generally in accordance with the EA; and (b) in accordance with the conditions of this consent. <i>Note: The general layout of the development is shown in Appendix 2.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The development was found to be generally in accordance with the EA. (b) There were two (2) non-compliances to the conditions of consent identified during this audit, including a non-compliance with this condition. 	Non-compliance CRWF-04_NC-1 Considering the non-compliance raised against CoA 3-13, this triggers an additional non-compliance against CoA 2-2. As stated in CoA 3-13, the Auditor considers that the non-compliance was resolved on 12 October 2022 when the noise compliance testing monitoring report was submitted to DPHI. Recommendation: Nil	Non-compliant
2-3	If there is any inconsistency between the above documents, the most recent document shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency. However, the conditions of this consent shall prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.	No inconsistencies between the EA and conditions of consent identified, noting the 3 x modification reports.		Compliant
2-4	The Applicant shall comply with any reasonable requirement/s of the Secretary arising from the Department's assessment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any strategies, plans, programs, reviews, audits, reports or correspondence that are submitted in accordance with this consent; (b) any reports, reviews or audits commissioned by the Department regarding compliance with this consent; and (c) the implementation of any actions or measures contained in these documents. 	The BBAMP was updated at the request of DPHI and submitted for approval in January 2025. Evidence sighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPHI letter dated 5 September 2023. Ref: SSD-6697-PA-40 – evidence of submission of BBAMP 2nd year monitoring report. • Ref: PA-46 20 Jan 2025 – evidence of submission of BBAMP Rev 3.2. 		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
2-5	LIMITS ON CONSENT Wind Turbines The Applicant may construct, operate and replace or upgrade as necessary up to 37 wind turbines. <i>Notes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To avoid any doubt, the Applicant does not require additional approval to replace or upgrade wind turbines overtime, as long as the replacement or upgrade is carried out in accordance with the conditions of this consent. To identify the approved wind turbines, see the figures and corresponding GIS coordinates in Appendix 2. 	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No additional WTGs constructed since IEA No. 3. Evidence sighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRWF Maintenance Schedule 2021-2024 		Compliant
2-6	Wind Turbine Height No wind turbines may be greater than 160 metres in height (measured from above ground level to the blade tip).	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No additional WTGs constructed during the audit period.		Compliant
2-7	Micro-siting Restrictions The Applicant may micro-site the wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure without further approval provided: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> they remain within the development corridor shown on the figure in Appendix 2; no wind turbine is moved more than 100 metres from the location shown on the figures in Appendix 2; no wind turbine is moved closer to residences CR28, CR34, CR41 or HER07 from the GIS locations in Appendix 2; and the revised location of the wind turbine and/or ancillary infrastructure would not result in any non-compliance with the conditions of this consent. 	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No change in WTG locations during the audit period.		Compliant
2-8	Final Layout Plans Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant shall submit detailed plans of the final layout of the development to the Secretary, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> details on the micro-siting of any wind turbines and/or ancillary infrastructure; and the GIS coordinates of the wind turbines. 	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No change in WTG locations during the audit period.		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<i>Note: If the construction of the development is to be staged, then the provision of these plans may be staged</i>			
2-9	<p>NOTIFICATION TO DEPARTMENT</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of the construction, operation and/or decommissioning of the development, the Applicant shall notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement.</p> <p>If the construction, operation and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged, then the Applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) notify the Department in writing prior to the commencement of the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage; and (b) inform the local community and the Community Consultation Committee about the proposed staging plans 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No staged commencement of construction, operation or decommissioning phases occurred during the audit period.</p>		Compliant
2-10	<p>STRUCTURAL ADEQUACY</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that the wind turbines are constructed in accordance with the relevant standards, including the structural design requirements of <i>IEC 61400-1 Wind turbines – Part 1: Design Requirements</i> (or equivalent).</p>	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional WTGs constructed during the audit period.</p>		Compliant
2-11	<p>The Applicant shall ensure that all new buildings and structures, and any alterations or additions to existing buildings and structures, are constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of the BCA.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under Part 4A of the EP&A Act, the Applicant is required to obtain construction and occupation certificates for the proposed building works. • Part 8 of the EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements for the certification of the development 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional buildings or structures constructed during the audit period.</p>		Compliant
2-12	<p>DEMOLITION</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that all demolition work on site is carried out in accordance with <i>AS 2601-2001: The Demolition of Structures</i>, or its latest version.</p>	<p>No demolition works have occurred to date.</p>		Not triggered

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
2-13	<p>PROTECTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>Unless the Applicant and the applicable authority agree otherwise, the Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) repair, or pay the full costs associated with repairing, any public infrastructure that is damaged by the development; and (b) relocate, or pay the full costs associated with relocating, any public infrastructure that needs to be relocated as a result of the development. <p>This condition does not apply to the upgrade and maintenance of the road network, which is expressly provided for in the conditions of this consent.</p>	<p>Site inspections and audit interviews confirmed that no damage to public infrastructure has occurred during the audit period.</p> <p>No request from Council to repair damaged roads.</p>		Compliant
2-14	<p>OPERATION OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that all plant and equipment used on site, or in connection with the development, is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and (b) operated in a proper and efficient manner. 	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, January 2025 Monthly Report • GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, February 2025 Monthly Report • GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, March 2025 Monthly Report • GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, April 2025 Monthly Report • GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, May 2025 Monthly Report • CRWF Maintenance Schedule 2021-2024 <p>Monthly reports include details of WTG condition monitoring, maintenance activities undertaken and major component upgrades. The maintenance schedule includes an overview summary of the status of each maintenance activity.</p> <p>WTG09 maintenance was completed in June 2025 and is back online.</p> <p>Other than WTGs, there is no other substantial plant or equipment used on site during operations</p>		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
2-15	<p>UPDATING & STAGING OF STRATEGIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS</p> <p>With the approval of the Secretary, the Applicant may submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a progressive basis.</p> <p>To ensure the strategies, plans or programs under the conditions of this consent are updated on a regular basis, the Applicant may at any time submit revised strategies, plans or programs to the Secretary for approval.</p> <p>With the agreement of the Secretary, the Applicant may prepare any revised strategy, plan or program without undertaking consultation with all the parties referred to under the relevant condition of this consent.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While any strategy, plan or program may be submitted on a progressive basis, the Applicant must ensure that all development being carried out on site is covered by suitable strategies, plans or programs at all times. <p><i>If the submission of any strategy, plan or program is to be staged, then the relevant strategy, plan or program must clearly describe the specific stage to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of this stage to any future stages, and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program.</i></p>	<p>Management plans (required by this consent) updated during the audit period include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Rev 6, dated 18 June 2024 Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Biodiversity Management Plan (Operational), dated 28 February 2024 Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Environmental Management Strategy, Rev 11, dated 1 November 2022 Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Traffic Management Plan, Rev B, dated 25 June 2024 <p>Evidence of DPHI approval of plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPHI Letter, dated 23 September 2024. Approval of Traffic Management Plan. Ref: SSD-6697-PA-43 DPHI Letter, dated 26 June 2024. Approval of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan Ref: SSD-6697-PA-44 DPHI Letter, dated 2 April 2024. Approval of Biodiversity Management Plan (Operations) Ref: SSD-6697-PA-42 DPHI Letter, dated 14 November 2022. Approval of Environmental Management Strategy Ref: SSD-6697-PA-26 		Compliant
2-16	<p>COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of construction, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant shall enter into VPAs with the Councils in accordance with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Division 6 of Part 4 of the EP&A Act; and the terms of the applicable offer in Appendix 3. 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No changes during the audit period.</p>		Compliant

Schedule 3: Environmental Conditions - General

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status									
3-1	<p>ACQUISITION UPON REQUEST</p> <p>For a period of 5 years from the commencement of construction of the applicable cluster, the owner(s) of the land listed in Table 1 may request the Applicant to acquire their land. Upon receiving a written request from these owner(s), the Applicant shall acquire the land in accordance with the procedures in conditions 2 and 3 of schedule 4.</p> <p>However, this condition does not apply if the Applicant has an agreement with the owner(s) of the relevant land in regard to visual impacts associated with the development, and the Applicant has advised the Department in writing of the terms of this agreement.</p> <p>Table 1: Land subject to acquisition upon request</p> <table><tr><th>Acquisition Basis</th><th>Land</th><th>Cluster</th></tr><tr><td>Visual Impact</td><td>CR33, CR34</td><td>Sallys Flat (Turbines A61 to A106)</td></tr><tr><td>Visual Impact</td><td>CR15, CR18, CR24, CR41</td><td>Pyramul (Turbines A1 to A58)</td></tr></table> <p><i>Note: To identify the land, clusters and wind turbines referred to in Table 1, see the figures in Appendix 2 of the consent.</i></p>	Acquisition Basis	Land	Cluster	Visual Impact	CR33, CR34	Sallys Flat (Turbines A61 to A106)	Visual Impact	CR15, CR18, CR24, CR41	Pyramul (Turbines A1 to A58)	<p>Construction commenced on 25 May 2018. The 5-year timeframe for land acquisition to be requested under this condition ended on 25 May 2023.</p> <p>No land acquisition requests have been received to date.</p>		Not triggered
Acquisition Basis	Land	Cluster											
Visual Impact	CR33, CR34	Sallys Flat (Turbines A61 to A106)											
Visual Impact	CR15, CR18, CR24, CR41	Pyramul (Turbines A1 to A58)											
3-2	<p>VISUAL</p> <p>Visual Impact Mitigation</p> <p>For a period of 5 years from the commencement of construction of the development the owner(s) of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the land listed in Table 1 (unless the landowner has requested acquisition or has an agreement with the Applicant in regard to visual impacts);(b) the residences listed in Table 2; or(c) any other non-associated residence within 4 kilometres of any wind turbine, <p>may request additional visual mitigation measures at their residence. Upon receiving a written request from these owner(s), the Applicant shall implement visual impact mitigation measures (such as landscaping, vegetation screening, provision of awnings/blinds) at the residence (including its curtilage) in consultation with the landowner.</p>	<p>Construction commenced on 25 May 2018. The 5-year timeframe for visual mitigation measures to be requested under this condition ended on 25 May 2023.</p> <p>Two properties requested visual mitigation measures during the previous audit period. Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional requests received during the current audit period.</p>		Compliant									

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status						
	<div><div><div>Table 2: Visual impact mitigation upon request</div><table><tr><th>Residence</th><th>Characterisation of impact</th></tr><tr><td>CR19, CR27, CR28, CR35, CR36, CR37, SFR04, SFR05, SFR08</td><td>Moderate</td></tr><tr><td>SFR10, SFR11, SFR12, SFR13, SFR14, SFR15, SFR16, SFR17, SFR18, SFR19, SFR20, PL01, CR26</td><td>Low</td></tr></table></div><div><p>These mitigation measures must be reasonable and feasible, directed towards reducing the visual impacts of the wind turbines on the residence (including its curtilage), and commensurate with the level of visual impact.</p><p>The mitigation measures must be implemented within 12 months of receiving the written request, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.</p><p>If the Applicant and the owner cannot agree on the measures to be implemented, or there is a dispute about the implementation of these measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p><p>Notes:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">To identify the residences referred to in Table 2, see the figures in Appendix 2.To avoid any doubt, the visual impact mitigation measures must be aimed at reducing the visibility of the wind turbines from the residence and its curtilage. Mitigation measures are not required to be implemented to reduce the visibility of wind turbines from other locations on the property.In some cases, mitigation measures may not be warranted as the wind turbines would not be visible from the residence and its curtilage.The identification of appropriate visual impact mitigation measures will be easier following the construction of the wind turbines. While landowners may ask for the implementation of visual impact mitigation measures shortly after the commencement of</div></div>	Residence	Characterisation of impact	CR19, CR27, CR28, CR35, CR36, CR37, SFR04, SFR05, SFR08	Moderate	SFR10, SFR11, SFR12, SFR13, SFR14, SFR15, SFR16, SFR17, SFR18, SFR19, SFR20, PL01, CR26	Low			
Residence	Characterisation of impact									
CR19, CR27, CR28, CR35, CR36, CR37, SFR04, SFR05, SFR08	Moderate									
SFR10, SFR11, SFR12, SFR13, SFR14, SFR15, SFR16, SFR17, SFR18, SFR19, SFR20, PL01, CR26	Low									

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
3-3	<p><i>construction, they should consider the merits of delaying this request until the wind turbines are visible from their residence.</i></p> <p>Visual Appearance The Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the off-site visual impacts of the development; (b) ensure the wind turbines are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i painted off white/grey; and ii finished with a surface treatment that minimises the potential for glare and reflection; iii ensure the visual appearance of all ancillary infrastructure (including paint colours, specifications and screening blends in as far as possible with the surrounding landscape; and (c) not mount any advertising signs or logos on wind turbines or ancillary infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) No complaints received in regard to visual impacts during the audit period. No additional visual impact mitigation measures (as per Section 6.4.3 of the EMS) required. (b) During the site inspection all WTGs appears to be painted white/ grey and ancillary infrastructure were not visible to surrounding residents. (c) No advertising signs or logos were mounted to WTGs or ancillary infrastructure. 		Compliant
3-4	<p>Lighting The Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the off-site lighting impacts of the development; (b) ensure that any aviation hazard lighting complies with CASA's requirements; (c) ensure that all external lighting associated with the development (apart from any aviation hazard lighting): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. is installed as low intensity lighting (except where required for safety or emergency purposes); II. does not shine above the horizontal; III. uses best management practice for bat deterrence; and IV. complies with <i>Australian Standard AS4282 (INT) 1997 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting</i>, or its latest version. 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No changes to lighting design or further lighting assessments undertaken during audit period.</p> <p>No further correspondence received from CASA.</p> <p>No lighting issues observed during the site inspection.</p> <p>No lighting related complaints received during the audit period.</p> <p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aeronautical Impact Assessment, dated 10 November 2020 • Email from CASA to CWP Renewables Re. Aviation Hazard Lighting, dated 	<p>DPHI FOCUS AREA</p> <p>No lighting issues to note.</p> <p>There are no identified aeronautical safety impacts and the provision of obstacle lighting on WTGs has not been required.</p>	Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
3-5	Shadow Flicker The Applicant shall ensure that shadow flicker from operational wind turbines does not exceed 30 hours per annum at any non-associated residence.	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No changes to WTG layout or design during the audit period. Chapter 8 of the EIS identified that 1 property would experience up to 10 hours of shadow flicker per annum. There is no requirement to validate shadow flicker.		Compliant
3-6	NOISE & VIBRATION Construction & Decommissioning The Applicant shall implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the construction or decommissioning noise of the development, including any associated traffic noise.	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No construction or decommissioning activities were undertaken during the audit period.		Compliant
3-7	The Applicant shall ensure that the noise generated by any construction or decommissioning activities is managed in accordance with the best practice requirements outlined in the <i>Interim Construction Noise Guideline</i> (DECC, 2009), or its latest version.	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No construction or decommissioning activities were undertaken during the audit period.		Compliant
3-8	Unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant shall only undertake construction or decommissioning activities between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday; (b) 8 am to 1 pm Saturdays; and (c) at no time on Sundays and NSW public holidays. The following construction activities may be undertaken outside these hours without the approval of the Secretary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • activities that are inaudible at non-associated residences; • the delivery of materials as requested by the NSW Police Force or other authorities for safety reasons; or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emergency work to avoid the loss of life, property and/or material harm to the environment. 	Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No construction or decommissioning activities were undertaken during the audit period.		Compliant
3-9	The Applicant shall only carry out blasting on site between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday and between 8 am and 1 pm on Saturday. No blasting is allowed on Sundays or public holidays.	Previously assessed as Not Triggered in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No construction or decommissioning activities were undertaken during the audit period.		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
		CWRF advised that blasting was completed on 27 August and 2 September 2020 which is outside of the audit period.		
3-10	<p>The Applicant shall ensure that any blasting carried out during the construction of the development does not exceed the criteria in Table 3.</p> <p>Table 3: Blasting criteria (see consent document for criteria)</p>	<p>Previously assessed as Not Triggered in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No construction or decommissioning activities were undertaken during the audit period.</p> <p>CWRF advised that blasting was completed on 27 August and 2 September 2020 which is outside of the audit period.</p>		Compliant
3-11	<p>Operational Noise Criteria – Wind Turbines</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that the noise generated by the operation of wind turbines does not exceed the relevant criteria in Table 4 at any non-associated residence.</p> <p>Table 4: Noise criteria dB(A) (see consent document for criteria)</p> <p><i>Note: To identify the residences referred to in Table 4, see the applicable figures in Appendix 2.</i></p> <p>Noise generated by the operation of the wind turbines is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements of the South Australian Environment Protection Authority's Wind Farms – Environmental. Noise Guidelines 2009 (or its latest version), as modified by the provisions in Appendix 4. If this guideline is replaced by an equivalent NSW guideline, then the noise generated is to be measured in accordance with the requirements in the NSW guideline.</p>	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Noise Compliance Testing, dated October 2022, prepared by Sonus. <p>The Sonus report concluded that residential noise logging locations meet the relevant criteria of the project approval conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPHI Letter to CRWF, dated 13 October 2022. Noise Monitoring Report – Operational Ref: SSD-6697-PA-39. <p>The DPHI letter determined that the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm complies with all noise related provisions of the Project Approval, including noise associated with Ancillary Infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from EPA to CRWF, dated 21 October 2022. <p>The email from the EPA stated that the Operations Noise verification report satisfied the conditions of consent and the EPA had no comments.</p>		Compliant
3-12	<p>Operational Noise Criteria – Ancillary Infrastructure</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that the noise generated by the operation of ancillary infrastructure does not exceed 35 dB(A) LAeq(15 minute) at any non-associated residence.</p> <p>Noise generated by the development is to be measured in accordance with the relevant requirements of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy (or its equivalent) as modified by the provisions in Appendix 4.</p>	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Noise Compliance Testing, dated October 2022, prepared by Sonus. <p>The Sonus report concluded that residential noise logging locations meet the relevant criteria of the project approval conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPHI Letter to CRWF, dated 13 October 2022. Noise Monitoring Report – Operational Ref: SSD-6697-PA-39. 		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
		<p>The DPHI letter determined that the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm complies with all noise related provisions of the Project Approval, including noise associated with Ancillary Infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from EPA to CRWF, dated 21 October 2022. <p>The email from the EPA stated that the Operations Noise verification report satisfied the conditions of consent and the EPA had no comments.</p>		
3-13	<p>Noise Monitoring</p> <p>Within 3 months of the commencement of operations, unless otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) undertake noise monitoring to determine whether the development is complying with the relevant conditions of this consent; and (f) submit a copy of the monitoring results to the Department and the EPA. 	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Noise Compliance Testing, dated October 2022, prepared by Sonus. DPHI Letter to CRWF Re. Operational Noise Monitoring Report Extension of Time. Dated 28 July 2022 DPHI Letter to CRWF, dated 13 October 2022. Noise Monitoring Report – Operational Ref: SSD-6697-PA-39. 	<p>Self-reported Non-compliance CRWF-04_NC-2</p> <p>Operations commenced 20 December 2021, consequently noise compliance testing report was originally due in March 2022, although DPHI granted an extension until 1 September 2022.</p> <p>The noise compliance testing report was submitted to DPHI on 12 October 2022, exceeding the DPHI-approved extension deadline.</p> <p>The Auditor considers that the non-compliance was resolved on 12 October 2022 when the noise compliance testing report was submitted to DPHI</p> <p>Recommendation: Nil</p>	Non-Compliant
3-14	The Applicant shall undertake further noise monitoring of the development if required by the Secretary.	No further noise monitoring has been requested on the project to date.		Not triggered
3-15	<p>AIR</p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the 	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Table 10 of the EMS contains air quality mitigation measures 		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	off-site dust and fume emissions of the development; and (b) minimise the surface disturbance of the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly Environmental Site Inspection Forms (January to June 2025) <p>Assessment of air quality and rehabilitation areas is included in monthly inspections.</p> <p>Traffic speeds are kept below 40km to help reduce dust.</p> <p>During the site inspection the Auditor observed unsealed areas being progressively rehabilitated, where possible.</p> <p>No dust or air quality issues observed.</p>		
3-16	WATER Water Supply The Applicant shall ensure that it has sufficient water for all stages of the development, and if necessary, adjust the scale of the development to match its available water supply. <i>Note: Under the Water Act 1912 and/or the Water Management Act 2000, the Applicant is required to obtain the necessary water licences for the development.</i>	Evidence sighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Access Licence (WAL) #42932 issued under Water Management Act 2000 <p>The project has not taken water in accordance with the WAL.</p> <p>Operational water for toilets etc. is taken from onsite rainwater tanks and filtered.</p> <p>No water required for turbines.</p>		Compliant
3-17	Water Pollution Unless an EPL authorises otherwise, the Applicant shall ensure that the development does not cause any water pollution. <i>Note: Section 120 of the POEO Act makes it an offence to pollute any waters</i>	Evidence sighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPL 21090 NSW EPA Annual Returns for Licence 21090 – 2023, 2024 and 2025 Monthly site inspection checklists <p>CRWF currently holds EPL 21090. Condition L1 of the EPL requires CRWF to comply with Section 120 of the POEO Act.</p> <p>The EPA annual returns did not identify any pollution events.</p> <p>No water pollution incidents have been recorded or reported to the EPA or DPHI.</p> <p>On site visual monitoring undertaken by Ops team.</p> <p>Sediment basin located at O&M building and substation.</p> <p>No spills recorded during audit period.</p>		Compliant
3-18	Operating Conditions	Site observations confirmed acceptable ERSED controls being implemented		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>The Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) ensure that all activities are undertaken in accordance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction</i> (Landcom, 2004) manual, or its latest version; ii. guidelines for waterway crossings and fish passage, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Policy and Guidelines for Fish Friendly Waterway Crossings (2004)</i>, or its latest version; 2. <i>Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings (2004)</i>, or its latest version; and 3. <i>Water Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (2012)</i>, or its latest version; and (b) ensure that the storage and handling of all dangerous goods and hazardous materials is undertaken in accordance with <i>AS1940-2004: The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids, or its latest version</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Section 7 of EMS requires monthly monitoring of the effectiveness of ERSED controls <p>Monthly reporting is used in conjunction Archer to track incidents, events, interaction, observations including close out actions. This includes ERSED matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (b) Oil storage shed contains oils and hydrocarbons. Sighted drawing confirming adequate bund capacity. - CRWF OIL STORE GENERAL ARRANGEMENT, ZX109-DWG5060-1 <p>The site inspection confirmed that permanent ERSED controls were being effectively maintained and were considered as being effective in preventing erosion impacts.</p>		
3-19	<p>BIODIVERSITY</p> <p>Operating Conditions</p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) ensure, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, that no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 5.7 hectares of Box Gum Woodland is cleared for the development, including the 0.95 hectares that would be cleared for the Aarons Pass Road upgrades; ii. 5.64 hectares of Red Stringybark - Red Box - Long-leaved Box – Inland Scribbly Gum is cleared for the Aarons Pass Road upgrades; and (b) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. impacts on the Small-Purple Pea (<i>Swainsona recta</i>), <i>Acacia meiantha</i> and <i>Pomaderris cotoneaster</i>; ii. limb-logging of hollow bearing trees along Aarons Pass Road; 	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Vegetation Clearing Report, prepared by Eco Logical, dated 2 September 2020 • Aarons Pass Road Vegetation Clearing, Final Report, prepared by Eco Logical, dated 4 September 2020 • Final Vegetation Report, prepared by ERM for Aarons Pass Road, dated 9 October 2020 <p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional clearing works have occurred during the audit period.</p> <p>Final clearance limits were confirmed as being compliant with the limits contained within the approval conditions.</p>	<p>DPHI FOCUS AREA</p> <p>Opportunity for Improvement</p> <p>CRWF-04_OFI-1</p> <p>Clearance limits were audited by a consultant during the construction phase and reported in a final vegetation clearing report to demonstrate compliance with approved limits. While additional clearing is not expected to be required during the operational phase, there may be ad-hoc instances where isolated clearing is required in areas not previously cleared during</p>	Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>iii. impacts on threatened bird and bat populations;</p> <p>iv. the approved clearing of native woodland vegetation and fauna habitat, including hollow-bearing trees; and</p> <p>(c) if micro-siting wind turbines, ensure that the revised location of the turbine is at least 30 metres from any existing hollow-bearing trees, and where reasonable and feasible, 50 metres from any existing hollow-bearing tree, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.</p> <p><i>Note: In considering a request for micro-siting of turbines within 30 m of existing hollow-bearing trees, the Secretary will consider safety concerns, the constructability of the turbine, and/or whether the micro-siting would materially increase biodiversity impacts</i></p>		<p>construction as part of maintenance activities.</p> <p>Recommendation: There is an opportunity for the project to develop an operational phase vegetation clearance tracker to 'draw down' on residual approved limits. The tracker should be maintained as a live document to be able to validate current total clearance amounts and demonstrate ongoing compliance during operations.</p>	
3-20	<p>Biodiversity Offset Strategy - Wind Farm</p> <p>Within 2 years of the commencement of construction, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must enter into a stewardship agreement under the BC Act for the enhancement and protection of the 674 Biodiversity Offset Area (see the figure in Appendix 5) in accordance with the biodiversity offset strategy described in the EA for the development.</p>	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement made under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, executed on 19 August 2022 DPHI Letter. REF: PA-28 Extension of Time to Retire Biodiversity Credits until 30 September 2022, dated 9 June 2022 <p>The DPHI Letter granted an extension of time until 30 September 2022 for requirements under CoA 3-20, and until 10 December 2020 for the requirements under CoA 3-21</p>	<p>DPHI FOCUS AREA</p> <p>The Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement has been executed and is actively being managed by CRWF.</p>	Compliant
3-21	<p>Biodiversity Offset - Aarons Pass Road</p> <p>Within 2 years of the commencement of construction, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits of a number and class specified in Tables 5 and 6 below.</p> <p>The retirement of credits must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the <i>NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme</i> and can be achieved by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>; <i>making payments into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund; and</i> 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p>	<p>DPHI FOCUS AREA</p> <p>All biodiversity offset credits have been fully retired.</p>	Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status																							
	<div>iii. funding a biodiversity conservation action that benefits the threatened entity impacted by the development, consistent with the ‘Ancillary rules: Biodiversity conservation actions.</div> <div>Table 5: Ecosystem Credit Requirements<table><tr><th>Vegetation Community</th><th>PCT ID</th><th>Credits Required</th></tr><tr><td>Blakely’s Red Gum – Yellow Box grassy tall woodland of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion</td><td>277</td><td>16)</td></tr><tr><td>Red Stringybark – Red Box – Long-leaved Box – Inland Scribbly Gum tussock grass shrub low open forest on hills in the southern part of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion</td><td>290</td><td>123</td></tr></table></div> <div>Table 6: Species Credit Requirements<table><tr><th>Species</th><th>Credits Required</th></tr><tr><td>Glossy Black Cockatoo</td><td>154</td></tr><tr><td>Powerful Owl</td><td>154</td></tr><tr><td>Masked Owl</td><td>154</td></tr><tr><td>Koala</td><td>156</td></tr><tr><td><i>Acacia meiantha</i></td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td><i>Pomaderris cotoneaster</i></td><td>1</td></tr></table></div>	Vegetation Community	PCT ID	Credits Required	Blakely’s Red Gum – Yellow Box grassy tall woodland of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion	277	16)	Red Stringybark – Red Box – Long-leaved Box – Inland Scribbly Gum tussock grass shrub low open forest on hills in the southern part of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion	290	123	Species	Credits Required	Glossy Black Cockatoo	154	Powerful Owl	154	Masked Owl	154	Koala	156	<i>Acacia meiantha</i>	5	<i>Pomaderris cotoneaster</i>	1			
Vegetation Community	PCT ID	Credits Required																									
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<i>Pomaderris cotoneaster</i>	1																										
3-22	<div>Biodiversity Management Plan</div> <div>Prior to carrying out further work on the upgrades on Aarons Pass Road after the date of approval of Modification 1, the Applicant must prepare a revised Biodiversity Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must:</div>	<div>Evidence sighted:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Biodiversity Management Plan (Operational), dated 28 February 2024DPHI Letter, dated 2 April 2024. Approval of</div>	<div>DPHI FOCUS AREA</div> <div>Refer to Section 4.8 for details on the implementation of the BMP and BBAMP.</div>	Compliant																							

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>(a) be prepared in consultation with BCD and DoE; and</p> <p>(b) include a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a description of the measures that would be implemented for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> satisfying the requirements in condition 19 above; rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas protecting vegetation and fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area; maximising the salvage of resources such as vegetative and soil resources within the approved disturbance area, including along Aarons Pass Road, for beneficial reuse such as fauna habitat enhancement on site and/or in the biodiversity offset area; collecting and propagating seed (where relevant); minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys; controlling weeds and feral pests; controlling erosion; controlling access; and minimising bushfire risks; a Translocation Plan for moving any Acacia meiantha in the approved development area for the Aarons Pass Road upgrades; Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan, that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> baseline data on bird and bat populations in the locality that could potentially be affected by the development, particularly 'at risk' species and threatened species; a detailed description of the measures that would be implemented on site for minimising bird and bat strike during operation of the 	<p>Biodiversity Management Plan (Operations) Ref: SSD-6697-PA-42</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan, Rev 2.6, dated November 2017. Office of Environment and Heritage letter to CRWF Re. Approval Letter of BBAMP, dated 16 November 2017 Report from Eco Logical to CRWF Re. Health Assessment of Acacia meiantha on Aarons Pass Road, dated 26 August 2024 <p>The BMP was updated during the audit period after consultation with BCS.</p> <p>The BBAMP was updated in 2024 and is currently with DPHI for approval.</p> <p>Monitoring programs are included in the BMP and BBAMP.</p>		

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>development, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. minimising the availability of raptor perches; ii. prompt carcass removal; iii. controlling pests; iv. using best practice methods for bat deterrence, including managing potential lighting impacts; v. adaptive management of turbines to reduce mortality; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a program to monitor and report on the vegetation clearing required for the Aarons Pass Road upgrades, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. a clear methodology to calculate and verify the vegetation clearing; ii. verification of the vegetation clearing by suitably qualified experts; iii. regular reporting on the scale and nature of the vegetation clearing on the proponent's website; and iv. the publication of a detailed report documenting all the clearing undertaken for the road upgrades on the proponent's website within 4 weeks of completing the final clearing; and <p>(c) include a detailed program to monitor and report on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the effectiveness of these measures and plans; and • bird and bat strike annually, or as otherwise directed by the Secretary. 			
3-23	Following approval, the Applicant must implement the measures described in the Biodiversity Management Plan.	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan Implementation Report Year Three, dated 7 January 2025 • Monthly inspection checklists include BMP 	<p>DPHI FOCUS AREA</p> <p>Refer to Section 4.8 for details on the on the implementation of the BMP and BBAMP.</p>	Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
		<p>requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bird and bat strike register. <p>Weeds and feral animals are controlled via maintenance contractors</p> <p>Mitigation measures in Tables 10 to 13 of BMP generally being implemented.</p>	<p>Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-2</p> <p><i>Biodiversity Management Plan Table 11 (Weed and Pest management Measures)</i> requires the installation bait/traps around building assets to control rat/mice.</p> <p>The audit observed that rat/rodent traps were not currently employed at the buildings although there had been recent reports of rodent activity. During the audit, CRWF advised that rodent traps were in the process of being procured and deployed to manage the issue.</p> <p>Recommendation: Install rodent traps ASAP to avoid potential rodent infestations which would attract birds to site and may result in increased levels of bird strikes.</p>	
3-25	<p>HERITAGE</p> <p>Protection of Aboriginal Heritage Items</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that the development does not cause any direct or indirect impact on any Aboriginal heritage items located outside the approved disturbance area.</p>	<p>No heritage related incidents or issues during the audit period.</p> <p>All ground disturbance activities have been completed.</p>		Compliant
3-26	<p>Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant shall prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) be prepared in consultation with BCD and Aboriginal stakeholders; and (b) include a description of the measures that would be implemented for: 	<p>Sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Rev 6, dated 18 June 2024 DPHI Letter, dated 26 June 2024. Approval of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan Ref: SSD-6697-PA-44 		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. minimising ground disturbance within the project area during construction and decommissioning works; ii. managing impacts to Aboriginal heritage items within the project disturbance area; iii. managing the discovery of human remains or previously unidentified Aboriginal heritage items on site; and iv. ensuring workers on site receive suitable heritage inductions prior to carrying out any development on site, and that suitable records are kept of these inductions. 	The ACHMP was updated during the audit period in consultation with BCD and RAPs.		
3-27	Following approval, the Applicant must implement the measures described in the Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan.	<p>No new ground disturbances during audit period.</p> <p>Unexpected finds procedure in place</p> <p>Reburial of artefacts is still being worked with landowners and RAPs to identify reburial locations</p>		Compliant
3-28	<p>TRANSPORT</p> <p>Road Upgrades – Aarons Pass Road</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of construction (other than pre-construction minor works or the construction of the external overhead transmission line), the Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) undertake the road upgrades and other traffic management measures (including the construction of passing bays) identified in Appendix 6 to the satisfaction of MWRC; (b) upgrade the existing intersection between Aarons Pass Road and the Castlereagh Highway to the satisfaction of the RMS, unless the RMS determines these upgrades are unnecessary; and (c) construct the new intersection between Aarons Pass Road and the northern site access road to the satisfaction of MWRC. The intersection design must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. a widened shoulder prior to the intersection to assist turning vehicles; and/or ii. a widened intersection to facilitate the flow of entering traffic off the 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional construction works undertaken during the audit period.</p>		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>road; and/or</p> <p>iii. placing site entrance gates back from the road so that they do not create a hold point for entering vehicles prior to their egress from Aarons Pass Road.</p> <p>The Applicant may commence construction of the external overhead transmission line (as identified in Appendix 2), prior to completion of the Aarons Pass Road upgrades set out in this condition, provided that all heavy and over-dimensional vehicles associated with the construction of this transmission line:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) access the site from Bombandi Road; and (b) do not use Aarons Pass Road before it has been upgraded in accordance with this condition. 			
3-29	<p>Road Upgrades – Bombandi Road</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of construction of the external transmission line (see the figures in Appendix 2), the Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) undertake the road upgrades and other traffic management measures identified in Appendix 6 to the satisfaction of MWRC; and (b) upgrade the existing intersection between Bombandi Road and the Castlereagh Highway to the satisfaction of the RMS, unless the RMS determines these upgrades are unnecessary. 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional construction works undertaken during the audit period.</p>		Compliant
3-30	<p>Road Maintenance</p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) prepare a pre-dilapidation survey of the transport route prior to the commencement of any construction or decommissioning works other than pre-construction minor works; (b) prepare a post-dilapidation survey of the transport route within 1 month of the completion of construction or 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional construction or decommissioning works undertaken during the audit period.</p> <p>No other dilapidation reports undertaken within audit period.</p>		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
3-31	<p>decommissioning works other than pre-construction minor works, or other timing as may be agreed by the applicable roads authority; and</p> <p>(c) rehabilitate and/or make good any project-related damage identified in the post-dilapidation survey within 2 months of the completion of survey, or other timing as may be agreed by the relevant roads authority,</p> <p>to the satisfaction of the relevant roads authority.</p> <p>If the construction and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged, the obligations in this condition apply to each stage of construction and/or decommissioning.</p> <p>If there is a dispute about the scope of any remedial works or the implementation of the works, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p> <p>Unformed Crown Roads</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure the future use of any unformed Crown road reserve is not compromised by the development.</p>	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crown Lands Audit of Aarons Pass Road, dated 19 April 2023. Ref: DOC22/237118 <p>The audit outcome stated "At the time of the inspection it was found that you were compliant with the conditions of your tenure."</p>		Compliant
3-32	<p>Restriction on Transport Routes</p> <p>The Applicant shall ensure that all:</p> <p>a) over-dimensional vehicle access to and from the site is via the northern route using Castlereagh Highway and Aarons Pass Road;</p> <p>b) over-dimensional vehicle access through Mudgee is via:</p> <p>i. Route 1 (using Castlereagh Highway, Market Street, Douro Street and Horatio Street), for vehicles up to 50 metres length; or</p> <p>ii. Route 2 (using Castlereagh Highway, Market Street, Cox Street, Short Street, Lawson Street, Mortimer Street, Burrundulla Avenue and Horatio Street), for vehicles more than 50 metres length;</p> <p>c) other heavy vehicle access to and from the site is via:</p>	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No additional travel routes used within audit period.</p> <p>There are no over dimensional vehicles required during the operations phase.</p>		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>i. the northern route using Castlereagh Highway and Aarons Pass Road; or</p> <p>ii. the southern route using Hill End Road and the Ilford-Sofala Road or Sofala Road; or</p> <p>iii. the minor access routes using Bombandi Road and/or Crudine Road,</p> <p>unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Applicant is required to obtain relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of overdimensional vehicles on the road network. Identified over-dimensional vehicle access routes through Mudgee are shown in Appendix 7. 			
3-33	<p>Traffic Management</p> <p>Prior to carrying out further work on the upgrades on Aarons Pass Road after the date of approval of Modification 1 or the commencement of the Bombandi Road upgrades, whichever occurs first, the Applicant must prepare a revised Traffic Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This plan must be prepared in consultation with RMS and the Councils, and include:</p> <p>(a) details of all transport routes and traffic types to be used for development-related traffic;</p> <p>(b) a protocol for undertaking dilapidation surveys to assess the:</p> <p>i. existing condition of the transport route/s prior to construction or decommissioning works; and</p> <p>ii. condition of the transport route/s following construction or decommissioning works;</p> <p>(c) a protocol for the repair of any roads identified in the dilapidation surveys to have been damaged during construction or decommissioning works;</p> <p>(d) details of the measures that would be implemented to minimise traffic safety issues and disruption to local users</p>	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Traffic Management Plan, Rev B, dated 25 June 2024 DPHI Letter, dated 23 September 2024. Approval of Traffic Management Plan. Ref: SSD-6697-PA-43 		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>of the transport route/s during any road upgrades and construction or decommissioning works, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. temporary traffic controls, including detours and signage; ii. notifying the local community about project-related traffic impacts; iii. minimising potential for conflict with school buses and rail services, including avoiding heavy vehicle transport through Mudgee between the hours of 7 am and 10 am and 2 pm and 4.30 pm Monday to Friday, as far as practicable; iv. undertaking monitoring and maintenance on Aarons Pass Road; v. responding to any emergency repair or maintenance requirements; and vi. a traffic management system for managing over-dimensional vehicles; and <p>(e) a drivers code of conduct that addresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. travelling speeds; ii. procedures to ensure that drivers adhere to the designated transport routes; and iii. procedures to ensure that drivers implement safe driving practices, particularly if using local roads through Mudgee. <p>If the construction and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged, the obligations in this condition apply to each stage of construction and/or decommissioning.</p>			
3-34	Following approval, the Applicant must implement the measures described in the Traffic Management Plan.	<p>Mitigation measures implemented during audit period include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site induction • Toolbox talks • Archer records including raising observations around traffic management 		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed signs at front gate. No over size over mass deliveries within the audit period. <p>All roads appeared to be in good condition during the site inspection.</p>		
3-35	<p>AVIATION</p> <p>Notification of Aviation Authorities</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of construction of any wind turbine or wind monitoring mast, the Applicant shall provide the following information to CASA, Airservices Australia and the RAAF (together the authorities):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) co-ordinates of latitude and longitude of each turbine and mast; (b) the final height of each turbine and mast in Australian Height Datum; (c) the ground level at the base of each turbine and mast in Australian Height Datum; (d) confirmation of compliance with any OLS; and (e) details of any aviation hazard lighting. 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>There have been no additional WTGs or metmasts installed.</p>		Compliant
3-36	<p>Within 30 days of the practical completion of any turbine or mast, the Applicant shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide confirmation to the authorities and local aviation users that the information that was previously provided remains accurate; or (b) update the information previously provided 	<p>Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022.</p> <p>No changes within audit period</p>		Compliant
3-37	<p>TELECOMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>Applicant shall make good any disruption to these services as soon as practicable following the disruption.</p> <p>If there is a dispute about the mitigation measures to be implemented or the implementation of these mitigation measures, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p>	<p>No complaints or notifications regarding disruptions to telecommunications.</p>		Not triggered
3-38	<p>BUSHFIRE</p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p>	<p>Evidence sighted:</p>		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	(a) ensure that the development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. provides for asset protection in accordance with the RFS's Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006 (or equivalent); ii. is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site; (b) develop procedures to manage potential fires on site; and (c) assist the RFS and emergency services as much as practicable if there is a fire in the vicinity of the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire safety certificate • Hot works permit • Emergency Management Plan, dated 8 March 2022 The fire safety certificate includes provision for bushfire management. The emergency response plan contains procedures in the event of bushfire. In November 2024 the RFS enquired about using the onsite water tanks for fire fighting response. The discussion was between the land owners and RFS directly.		
3-39	Safety The Applicant shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) prepare a Safety Management System for the development in accordance with the Department's <i>Hazardous Industry Planning Advisory Paper No. 9, 'Safety Management'</i> prior to commissioning any wind turbines on site; and (b) implement, and if necessary update, the system over the remaining life of the development. 	Evidence sighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GE Emergency Response Procedure • Squadron Emergency Management Plan, dated 8 March 2022 Safety equipment such as fire extinguishers and safety muster point signage was observed during the inspection.		Compliant
3-40	Waste The Applicant must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) implement all reasonable and feasible measures to minimise the waste generated by the development (b) classify all waste in accordance with the EPA's Waste Classification Guidelines and at appropriately licensed waste facilities; and (c) manage the waste in accordance with any requirements under the POEO Act and its associated regulations 	Table 12 of the EMS contains waste mitigation measures Waste management is included in site induction Waste segregation observed on site via use of dedicated bins. No soil waste taken off site during the audit period.		Compliant
3-41	REHABILITATION & DECOMMISSIONING Progressive Rehabilitation The Applicant shall rehabilitate all areas of the site not proposed for future disturbance progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following construction or decommissioning. All reasonable and feasible measures must be taken to minimise the total area	Table 7 of the EMS includes rehabilitation monitoring requirements. Monthly inspection reports include rehab assessment Site observations saw exposed batters being naturally progressively rehabilitated. Active rehabilitation vis seeding has occurred.	DPHI FOCUS AREA Progressive rehabilitation is occurring naturally via passive monitoring and weed and erosion control. CRWF has occasionally applied seed to disturbed areas at landowners	Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status														
	exposed at any time. Interim rehabilitation strategies shall be employed when areas prone to dust generation, soil erosion and weed incursion cannot yet be permanently rehabilitated.	Weeds being managed via routine maintenance including spraying,	request. The Auditor considers this to be an effective approach.															
3-42	<p>Rehabilitation Objectives – Decommissioning</p> <p>The Applicant shall rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 7.</p> <p>Table 7: Rehabilitation Objectives</p> <table><tr><th>Features</th><th>Objective</th></tr><tr><td>Development site (as a whole)</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe, stable and non-pollutingMinimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</td></tr><tr><td>Revegetation</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EA</td></tr><tr><td>Above ground wind turbine infrastructure (excluding wind turbine pads)</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise</td></tr><tr><td>Above ground ancillary infrastructure</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</td></tr><tr><td>Internal access roads</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary</td></tr><tr><td>Land use</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">Restore or maintain land capability as described in the EA</td></tr></table>	Features	Objective	Development site (as a whole)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe, stable and non-pollutingMinimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible	Revegetation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EA	Above ground wind turbine infrastructure (excluding wind turbine pads)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise	Above ground ancillary infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary	Internal access roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary	Land use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Restore or maintain land capability as described in the EA			Not triggered
Features	Objective																	
Development site (as a whole)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safe, stable and non-pollutingMinimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible																	
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Internal access roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Secretary																	
Land use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Restore or maintain land capability as described in the EA																	

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval		Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure public safety			
3-43	Decommissioning of Wind Turbines All wind turbines must be decommissioned within 18 months of the cessation of operations, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.				Not triggered
3-44	Any individual wind turbines which cease operating for more than 12 consecutive months must be dismantled within 18 months after that 12 month period, unless the Secretary agrees otherwise.				Not triggered
Schedule 4 – Additional Procedures					
4-1	NOTIFICATION OF LANDOWNERS Within 1 month of the commencement of development under this consent, the Applicant shall notify in writing the owners of: <div><div>(a) the land listed in Table 1 of schedule 3 that they have the right to require the Applicant to acquire their land in accordance with the procedures in conditions 2 and 3 below at any time within 5 years after the commencement of construction of the applicable cluster; and</div><div>(b) the land/residences listed in Table 1 and Table 2 of schedule 3, and any other non-associated residence within 4 kilometres of any wind turbine, that they have the right to request the Applicant to implement visual impact mitigation measures at their residence (including its curtilage) at any time within 5 years following the commencement of construction of the development.</div></div> In addition to the notification requirements in 1(a) above, within 1 month of the commencement of construction of the applicable cluster under this consent, the Applicant shall re-notify in writing the owners of the land listed in Table 1 of schedule 3 that construction of the applicable cluster has commenced.		Previously assessed as Compliant in Independent Audit No. 3, report dated 12 September 2022. No change during audit period.		Compliant
4-2	LAND ACQUISITION		No land acquisitions have been received from a landowner with acquisition rights.		Not triggered

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>Within 3 months of receiving a written request from a landowner with acquisition rights, the Applicant shall make a binding written offer to the landowner based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the current market value of the landowner's interest in the land at the date of this written request, as if the land was unaffected by the development, having regard to the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. existing and permissible use of the land, in accordance with the applicable planning instruments at the date of the written request; and ii. presence of improvements on the land and/or any approved building or structure which has been physically commenced at the date of the landowner's written request, and is due to be completed subsequent to that date, but excluding any improvements or reasonable costs that have resulted from the implementation of the visual impact mitigation measures in condition 2 of schedule 3; (b) the reasonable costs associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. relocating within the Bathurst or Mid-Western Regional local government areas, or to any other local government area determined by the Secretary; and iv. obtaining legal advice and expert advice for determining the acquisition price of the land, and v. the terms upon which it is to be acquired; and (c) reasonable compensation for any disturbance caused by the land acquisition process <p>However, if at the end of this period, the Applicant and landowner cannot agree on the acquisition price of the land and/or the terms upon which the land is to be acquired, then either party may refer the matter to the Secretary for resolution.</p> <p>Upon receiving such a request, the Secretary shall request the President of the NSW Division of the Australian Property Institute to appoint a qualified independent valuer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consider submissions from both parties; • determine a fair and reasonable acquisition price for the land and/or the terms upon which the land is to be acquired, having 	<p>In August 2022 a land acquisition settlement was reached with an "associated resident".</p> <p>Associated means that a landowner is receiving financial benefit directly from the windfarm (e.g., a turbine host) and, therefore, is not entitled to any additional compensation.</p> <p>Therefore, this acquisition was not triggered by condition 4-2 as the resident did not have acquisition rights referred to in the condition.</p>		

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>regard to the matters referred to in paragraphs (a)-(c) above;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> prepare a detailed report setting out the reasons for any determination; and provide a copy of the report to both parties. <p>Within 14 days of receiving the independent valuer's report, the Applicant shall make a binding written offer to the landowner to purchase the land at a price not less than the independent valuer's determination.</p> <p>However, if either party disputes the independent valuer's determination, then within 14 days of receiving the independent valuer's report, they may refer the matter to the Secretary for review. Any request for a review must be accompanied by a detailed report setting out the reasons why the party disputes the independent valuer's determination. Following consultation with the independent valuer and both parties, the Secretary will determine a fair and reasonable acquisition price for the land, having regard to the matters referred to in paragraphs (a)-(c) above, the independent valuer's report, the detailed report of the party that disputes the independent valuer's determination, whether an adjustment to the market value of the land since the independent valuation was completed is warranted and any other relevant submissions.</p> <p>Within 14 days of this determination, the Applicant shall make a binding written offer to the landowner to purchase the land at a price not less than the Secretary's determination.</p> <p>If the landowner refuses to accept the Applicant's binding written offer under this condition within 6 months of the offer being made, unless the Secretary determines otherwise, then the Applicant's obligations to acquire the land shall cease.</p>			
4-3	The Applicant shall pay all reasonable costs associated with the land acquisition process described in condition 2 above, including the costs associated with obtaining Council approval for any plan of subdivision (where permissible), and registration of this plan at the Office of the Registrar-General.	As above		Not triggered
Schedule 5 – Environmental Management, Reporting and Auditing				
5-1	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	Evidence sighted:		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<p>Environmental Management Strategy</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant shall prepare an Environmental Management Strategy for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This strategy must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provide the strategic framework for environmental management of the development; (b) identify the statutory approvals that apply to the development; (c) describe the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the development; (d) describe the procedures that would be implemented to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. keep the local community and relevant agencies informed about the operation and environmental performance of the development; ii. receive, handle, respond to, and record complaints; iii. resolve any disputes that may arise; iv. respond to any non-compliance; v. respond to emergencies; and (e) include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. copies of any strategies, plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent; and ii. a clear plan depicting all the monitoring to be carried out in relation to the development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Environmental Management Strategy, Rev 11, dated 1 November 2022 • DPHI Letter, dated 14 November 2022. Approval of Environmental Management Strategy Ref: SSD-6697-PA-26 <p>The EMS was updated during the audit period to focus on operations, and was approved by DPHI.</p> <p>The Audit considers that the EMS is appropriate and meets the requirements of the condition and generally aligns to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Post Approval Guidance, Environmental Management Plan Guideline requirements (April 2020). Refer to Section 4.8 for further detail.</p>		
5-2	Following approval, the Applicant shall implement the Environmental Management Strategy.	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident register – Archer • Performance audit reports • Annual performance reviews • Monthly checklists • Monitoring records • Site induction 	<p>Opportunity for Improvement CRWF-04_OFI-3</p> <p>The Auditor observed that the current Site Induction does not include all relevant sections of the EMS, such as fauna and flora management and heritage.</p> <p>The Auditor also noted that biodiversity-specific training</p>	Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
			<p>had not been delivered by CRWF during the audit.</p> <p>The CRWF team clarified that most operational activities undertaken by General Electric (GE) relate to turbine maintenance, which has not involved ground disturbance and therefore has not triggered the need for biodiversity-specific training. Pollution risks, particularly spills, were considered the primary operational environmental risk, and biennial spill response training was provided (most recently in January 2025). Environmental awareness topics, including relevant sensitivities, were addressed through toolbox talks. The CWRF operations team also noted that biodiversity-specific briefings were planned for upcoming ground disturbance works, such as powerline easement clearing, with ecological input to define no-go zones.</p> <p>Recommendation: Update the EMS Site Induction training to incorporate all relevant environmental aspects, including biodiversity protocols and a summary of key compliance requirements such as the SSD, EPL and EPBC approvals</p>	

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
			Consider implementing an environmental awareness training program for all GE and CRWF employees to raise awareness of key requirements such as biodiversity management requirements.	
5-3	<p>Adaptive Management</p> <p>The Applicant shall assess and manage development-related risks to ensure that there are no exceedances of the criteria and/or performance measures in schedule 3. Any exceedance of these criteria and/or performance measures constitutes a breach of this consent and may be subject to penalty or offence provisions under the EP&A Act or EP&A Regulation.</p> <p>Where any exceedance of these criteria and/or performance measures has occurred, the Applicant must, at the earliest opportunity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) take all reasonable and feasible steps to ensure that the exceedance ceases and does not recur; (b) consider all reasonable and feasible options for remediation (where relevant) and submit a report to the Department describing those options and any preferred remediation measures or other course of action; and (c) implement remediation measures as directed by the Secretary. 	No exceedances to the criteria listed in Schedule 3 were identified during the audit period.		Compliant
5-4	<p>Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs</p> <p>Within 3 months of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the submission of an incident report under condition 6 below; (b) the submission of an audit under condition 8 below; or (c) any modification to the conditions of this consent (unless the conditions require otherwise), <p>the Applicant shall review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans, and programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Secretary. Where this review leads to revisions in any such</p>	<p>There were no incidents during the audit period requiring a review of the EMS or any other plan.</p> <p>IEA#3 was submitted to DPHI in September 2022. As a result of IEA#3 a review of the EMS was undertaken, which was subsequently updated to remove references to construction, and focus on operations. DPHI approved the updated EMS in December 2022</p> <p>There were no planning approval modifications during the audit period.</p>		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	document, then within 4 weeks of the review the revised document must be submitted to the Secretary for approval. <i>Note: This is to ensure the strategies, plans and programs are updated on a regular basis, and incorporate any recommended measures to improve the environmental performance of the development.</i>			
5-5	Community Consultative Committee The Applicant shall establish and operate a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for the development to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This CCC must be established and operated in accordance with any applicable CCC guideline. <i>Notes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCC is an advisory committee. The Department and other relevant agencies are responsible for ensuring the Applicant complies with this consent. The CCC should be comprised of an independent chair and appropriate representation from the Applicant, Councils and the local community. 	Details of biannual CCC meeting minutes are available of the CRWF project website, with the most recent meeting dated 4 March 2025. David Johnson is the listed Independent Chairperson, which has remained consistent throughout the audit period. Other CCC members included community representatives, CRWF (Squadron) representatives and Bathurst Regional and Mid-Western Councils.		Compliant
5-6	REPORTING Incident Notification The Department must be notified via the Major Projects website portal within 7 days after the Applicant becomes aware of the incident. The notification must identify the development, including the development application number and the name of the development, and set out the location and nature of the incident. Non-Compliance Notification The Department must be notified via the Major Projects website portal within 7 days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance. The notification must identify the development and the application number for it, set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliant with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been done, or will be undertaken, to address the non-compliance.	Evidence sighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRWF letter to DPHI Re. Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (SSD 6697) – Notification of non-compliance, dated 12 September 2022. The self-reported non-compliance regarding the late submission of the noise compliance testing report to DPHI (refer to CoA 3-13) was submitted to DPHI on 12 September 2022, on the same day that CRWF became aware that they were non-compliant.		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
5-7	Regular Reporting The Applicant shall provide regular reporting on the environmental performance of the development on its website, in accordance with the reporting arrangements in any plans or programs approved under the conditions of this consent.	Review of the CRWF project website identified the following evidence of reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPL annual compliance reports. EPBC annual compliance reports BBAMP annual monitoring reports Independent Environmental Audits No. 1, 3 and 3, including responses to recommendations. Community Consultation Committee meeting minutes Project complaints register Operation noise compliance testing report Aarons Pass Road Vegetation Clearing – Final Report, dated 4 September 2020 		Compliant
5-8	AUDITING Within 1 year of the commencement of construction, and every 3 years thereafter, unless the Secretary directs otherwise, the Applicant shall commission and pay the full cost of an Independent Environmental Audit of the development. This audit must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> be prepared in accordance with the relevant <i>Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements</i> (DPE 2018, or its latest version); be conducted by a suitably qualified, experienced and independent team of experts whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary; include consultation with the relevant agencies; assess the environmental performance of the development, and whether it complies with the relevant requirements in this consent; review the adequacy of any approved strategy, plan or program required under the above mentioned consent; and recommend measures or actions to improve the environmental performance of the development, and/or any strategy, plan or program required under this consent 	This is the fourth IEA undertaken on the project. The site inspection for this IEA was undertaken on 8 July 2025, within three (3) years of the previous IEA, dated 21 July 2022. This IEA has been undertaken in accordance with IAPAR 2020 and the requirements of CoA 5-8 of SSD-6697.		Compliant

Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<i>Note: This audit team must be led by a suitably qualified auditor and/or experts in any other fields specified by the Secretary.</i>			
5-9	Within 3 months of commissioning this audit, or as otherwise agreed by the Secretary, the Applicant shall submit a copy of the audit report to the Secretary, together with its response to any recommendations contained in the audit report.	<p>Evidence sighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRWF letter to DPHI Re. Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (SSD 6697) – Independent Environmental Audit, dated 19 September 2022. <p>The CRWF to DPHI included responses to recommendations provided in IEA#3 and was submitted within three (3) months</p> <p>The Auditor understand that CRWF will submit this IEA report together with responses to recommendations within three (3) months.</p>		Compliant
5-10	<p>ACCESS TO INFORMATION</p> <p>The Applicant shall:</p> <p>(a) make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the EA; the final layout plans for the development; current statutory approvals for the development approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent; the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged; a comprehensive summary of the monitoring results of the development, which have been reported in accordance with the various plans and programs approved under the conditions of this consent; a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis; minutes of CCC meetings; 	<p>The CRWF project website can be found at: Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, NSW Squadron Energy</p> <p>The Auditor has confirmed that all required documents are listed on the project website, which are maintained and up to date.</p>		Compliant



Condition ID.	Compliance Requirement ¹ / Conditions of Approval	Evidence Collected	Independent Audit Findings and Recommendations	Compliance Status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the annual Statement of Compliance with the EPL; any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and any other matter required by the Secretary; and (b) keep this information up to date, to the satisfaction of the Secretary.			



Appendix B – Planning Secretary Audit Team Endorsement

Appendix B – Planning Secretary Audit Team Endorsement

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure



NSW Planning ref: SSD-6697-PA-47
Miss Zeina Jokadar
Environment Advisor
Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Level 1, 25 Bolton Street
Newcastle 2300
03/06/2025

Sent via the Major Projects Portal only

Subject: Crudine Ridge Wind – Independent Auditors Approval, 2025

Dear Miss Jokadar

I refer to your letter dated 29 May 2025, seeking the agreement of the Planning Secretary of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure ("NSW Planning") of the suitability of the Auditors' qualifications, experience and independence to undertake an independent audit of the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm ("the development"), in accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 8 of SSD 6697, as modified ("the consent").

Having considered the qualifications and experience of Mr Dylan Jones and Mr Garry Selwyn of KPMG ("the audit team"), I, as the nominee of the Planning Secretary, endorse the appointment of the audit team to undertake the audit in accordance with Condition 8 of the consent. This approval is conditional on the audit team being independent of the development and maintaining Exemplar Global certification. NSW Planning reserves the right to request an alternate auditor or audit team for future audits.

Please ensure this correspondence is appended to the Audit Report.

The audit is to be conducted in accordance with the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (NSW Planning, 2020 or as updated). A copy of this guideline can be located at <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-02/independent-audit-par-202005.pdf>. Auditors may wish to have regard to AS/NZS ISO 19011 Australian/New Zealand Standard: Guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems auditing.

Audit Report, including the response to any recommendations contained in the audit report and a timetable to implement the recommendations is to be submitted to the Planning Secretary, with the Audit Report within three months of commissioning the Audit.

Failure to meet these requirements will require revision and resubmission of the Audit Report.

NSW Planning reserves the right to request an alternate auditor or audit team for future audits.

Notwithstanding the agreement for the above listed audit team for this development, each respective project approval or consent requires a request for the agreement to the auditor or audit team be submitted to NSW Planning, for consideration of the Planning Secretary. Each request is reviewed

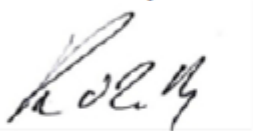
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure



and depending on the complexity of future projects, the suitability of a proposed auditor or audit team will be considered.

Should you have any enquiries in relation to this matter, please contact Georgia Dragicevic, Senior Compliance Officer, on 4247 1852 or by email to Georgia.Dragicevic@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Katrina O'Reilly
Team Leader - Compliance
Compliance
As nominee of the Planning Secretary

Appendix C – Consultation Records

Appendix C – Consultation Records

Agency	Contact / email	Response Received
DPHI	compliance@planning.nsw.gov.au Georgia.Dragicevic@planning.nsw.gov.au	Yes – see details below
EPA	info@epa.nsw.gov.au Lucy.Apps@epa.nsw.gov.au	Yes – see details below
Mid Western Council	Council@midwestern.nsw.gov.au	No
Bathurst Council	Council@bathurst.nsw.gov.au	No

Consultation request email

Dear Sir / Madam,

KPMG has been appointed by Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd to undertake an independent environmental audit (IEA) of the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm. The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) has endorsed the Audit Team, including myself as Lead Auditor.

In accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 8 (b) of the development consent (SSD-6697), the auditor is required to consult with relevant agencies during the audit.

Accordingly, please feel free to contact me directly via email or phone should you like to raise any matters for the Audit Team to consider as part of the audit process.

Regards,

Dylan Jones
Director
ESG Advisory & Assurance
Climate Change & Sustainability

KPMG
International Towers Sydney 3
300 Barangaroo Avenue,
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

DPHI response

Hi Dylan,

Thank you for consulting the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure on the upcoming IEA for Crudine Ridge Wind Farm. In addition to the consent requirements, please review the management of biodiversity, rehabilitation, landscaping, lighting and noise.

Thank you kindly,
Georgia

EPA response

Dear Mr Jones,

NSW Environment Protection Authority – Crudine Ridge Wind Farm – SSD-6697 Proposed Independent Environmental Audit Scope

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (the EPA) refers to your email dated 17 July 2025, seeking comment regarding the Independent Environmental Audit Scope for the Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (the Premises) in accordance with Schedule 5, Condition 8 (b) of Development Consent SSD-6697. The EPA understands an audit team of KPMG with yourself as the Lead Auditor has been endorsed by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) for this audit.

The EPA has no specific comments regarding the audit scope, noting that the Premises undertakes scheduled activities in accordance with Schedule 1 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* under conditions provided by Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 21090.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Mr Jacques Theron on (02) 6333 3818 or at info@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Lucy Apps
Unit Head – Regulatory Operations
Environment Protection Authority



Appendix D – Site Inspection Photographs

Appendix D – Site Inspection Photographs

Observations from the site inspection are provided in the following table. The Auditor was escorted around the site by Project personnel who made themselves available for this purpose.

Site Inspection Details

Site Location:	Aarons Pass Rd, Pyramul NSW 2850
Inspection Date / Time Period:	8 July 2025 / 9.15AM – 12PM
Weather Conditions:	Overcast, windy, dry.
The Auditee:	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm



Photo 1 Main site entrance on Aarons Road, with WTGs in background.



Photo 2 Operations and maintenance office.

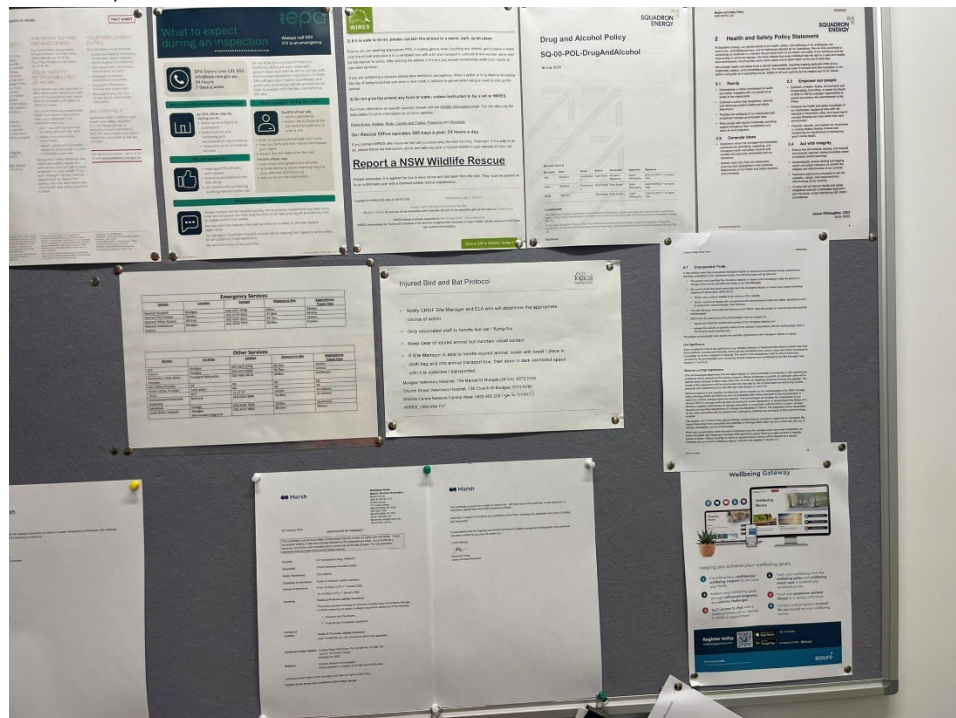


Photo 3 Notice board including environmental policy and management plans.



Photo 4 Self bunded oil storage shed for WTG lubricants and other oils.



Photo 5 Oil storage shed.



Photo 6 Spill kit and fire extinguisher within oil storage shed.



Photo 7 Waste bins segregating waste streams.



Photo 8 Electrical forklift used within O&M shed.



Photo 9 Electrical substation and overhead transmission lines.



Photo 10 Internal access road showing rock-lined culverts.



Photo 11 Rock lined swale drains near O&M compound showing weeds that have been sprayed and killed as routine maintenance.



Photo 12 Sediment basin with rip rap used as ERS control.



Photo 13 Representative WTG pad showing use of sealed surfaces.



Photo 14 Internal access road showing rock dams to slow surface water velocity.



Photo 15 Protected vegetation community on private land, away from CRWF operations.



Photo 16 Rock-lined swale drains.



Photo 17 Previously cleared batter showing signs of rehabilitation.



Photo 17 Previously cleared WTG pad after seeding as rehabilitation.



Photo 18 Internal access road showing minor erosion requiring maintenance.



Appendix E – Audit Agenda

Appendix E – Audit Agenda

Independent Environmental Audit – Crudine Ridge Wind Farm	
Project	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm
Planning Approval	SSD - 6697
Proponent	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Location of Audit	Aarons Pass Rd, Pyramul NSW 2850
Date of Audit	8 July 2025
Audit Team	Dylan Jones (Lead Auditor) Manya Narain (Auditor Assistant)
Site Contact	Zeina Jokadar, Environmental Advisor
Audit Criteria	Conditions of consent SSD-6697 Schedules 2, 3, 4 and 5 and appendices, in accordance with Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements 2020
Audit Period	21 July 2022 (date of previous independent audit) to 8 July 2025
Audit Objectives	Assess compliance with SSD-6697 conditions of approval.

Agenda		
Item	Time	Location
Opening Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">Introduce the auditor and auditee team members. Confirm audit scope, audit period, objectives and outline the methodology and resources required.	8:30 AM - 8:45 AM	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (in person)
Site Inspection <ul style="list-style-type: none">Auditee to provide an overview of site processes and facilitate site access. Auditor to sight current site activities and assess the implementation of mitigation measures and effectiveness of management plan requirements. Identify environmental aspects, impacts, controls and onsite documentation.	8:45 AM -11:30 AM	
Site Inspection Debrief / Lunch Break	11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	
Review Compliance to Consent Conditions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">SCHEDULE 2 – Administrative Conditions	12:00 PM – 12:30 PM	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (in person and online via MS Teams)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">SCHEDULE 3 – Environmental Conditions - General	12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">SCHEDULE 4 – Additional Procedures	1:30 PM – 2:00 PM	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">SCHEDULE 5 – Environmental Management, Reporting and Auditing	2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	

Auditor Consolidation / Internal Meeting	2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	
Closing Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss preliminary outcomes of the audit including details of any non-compliances and opportunities for improvement. Confirm next steps including additional requests for information and timelines 	2:45 PM – 3:00 PM	

Responsibilities		
Roles	Name	Responsibilities
Lead Auditor	Dylan Jones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule audit, prepare audit materials and manage resources Provide Audit Agenda to CRWF, including confirmation on a scope and timeframes Attend the site visits Lead interviews with key personnel Lead the Opening and Closing Meetings Prepare the Independent Audit Report
Auditor Assistant	Manya Narain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the lead auditor by preparing audit materials such as Audit Plan, schedules, interview questions and report drafting. Attend interviews remotely. Support preparation of the Independent Audit Report
Audit Specialists	N/A	N/A
Auditee	Zeina Jokadar – Environment Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with CRWF personnel to attend site inspection and audit interviews, as required Provide WH&S supervision to KPMG staff while on site Provide meeting rooms for audit interviews Respond to request for information prior to, during and following the day of the audit, as required
	Kacee Milnes – Operations Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide WH&S supervision to KPMG staff while on site Provide meeting rooms for audit interviews Respond to request for information prior to, during and following the day of the audit, as required.

Notes

- The audit will cover both the construction and operational requirements in accordance with Conditions of Consent SSD-6697 Schedule 2, 3, 4 and 5 as they relate to operational phase requirements only.
- The audit will cover a sampling of records relevant to the scope. KPMG auditors will apply their professional judgment based on the information made available during the audit.
- KPMG will conduct the audit in accordance with the Independent Auditing Post Approval Requirements (IAPAR 2020) with the following ratings applied: Compliant, Non-Compliant and Not Triggered, with the option to raise any Opportunities for Improvement.
- KPMG will issue a Request for Information (RFI) document separately to this agenda. To enable an efficient audit, it is requested that information is provided prior to the audit.










Appendix F – Audit Attendance Sheet

Appendix F – Audit Attendance Sheet



Audit Attendance Sheet

Project	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm	Audit Ref.	CRWF-04
Auditee	CRWF Pty Ltd	Lead Auditor	Dylan Jones
Location	CRWF Operations Office, Aarons Pass Road		
Opening Meeting Date / Time	8 July 2025 8:45am		
Closing Meeting Date / Time	8 July 2025 9 July 2:30pm		

Name	Organisation	Position	Signature	
			Opening Meeting	Closing Meeting
Dylan Jones	KPMG	Lead Auditor		
Zeina Jorhda	SQE	Env. Advisor		
Kacey Milnes	SQE	Ops Manager		
Maryia Narain	KPMG	Audit Assistant	—	



Appendix G – Independent Audit Declarations

Appendix G – Independent Audit Declarations

Independent Audit Report Declaration Form	
Project Name	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm
Consent Number	SSD-6697
Description of Project	Construction and operation of up to 37 wind turbines
Project Address	250 Aarons Pass Rd, Pyramul NSW 2850
Proponent	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Title of Audit	Independent Audit No.4
Date	29 July 2025

I declare that I have undertaken the Independent Audit and prepared the contents of the attached Independent Audit Report and to the best of my knowledge:

- i the audit has been undertaken in accordance with relevant condition(s) of consent and the Independent Audit Compliance Requirements (Department 2019);
- ii the findings of the audit are reported truthfully, accurately and completely;
- iii I have exercised due diligence and professional judgement in conducting the audit;
- iv I have acted professionally, objectively and in an unbiased manner;
- v I am not related to any proponent, owner or operator of the project neither as an employer, business partner, employee, or by sharing a common employer, having a contractual arrangement outside the audit, or by relationship as spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- vi I do not have any pecuniary interest in the audited project, including where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain or loss to me or spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- vii neither I nor my employer have provided consultancy services for the audited project that were subject to this audit except as otherwise declared to DPE prior to the audit; and
- viii I have not accepted, nor intend to accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit (apart from payment for auditing services) from any proponent, owner or operator of the project, their employees or any interested party. I have not knowingly allowed, nor intend to allow my colleagues to do so.

Notes:

- a) Under section 10.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) in a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a

material respect. The proponent of an approved project must not fail to include information in (or provide information for inclusion in) a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is materially relevant to the monitoring or audit. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, \$1 million and for an individual, \$250,000; and

- b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both).

Name of Auditor	Dylan Jones
Signature	<i>Dylan Jones</i>
Qualification	Lead Auditor B. Env. Sci. & Mgt. M. Env. Eng. Mgt. Exemplar Global Lead Auditor: Environmental Management Systems
Company	KPMG

Independent Audit Report Declaration Form	
Project Name	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm
Consent Number	SSD-6697
Description of Project	Construction and operation of up to 37 wind turbines
Project Address	250 Aarons Pass Rd, Pyramul NSW 2850
Proponent	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Title of Audit	Independent Audit No.4
Date	29 July 2025

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- ii the findings of the audit are reported truthfully, accurately and completely;
- iii I have exercised due diligence and professional judgement in conducting the audit;
- iv I have acted professionally, objectively and in an unbiased manner;
- v I am not related to any proponent, owner or operator of the project neither as an employer, business partner, employee, or by sharing a common employer, having a contractual arrangement outside the audit, or by relationship as spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- vi I do not have any pecuniary interest in the audited project, including where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain or loss to me or spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- vii neither I nor my employer have provided consultancy services for the audited project that were subject to this audit except as otherwise declared to DPE prior to the audit; and
- viii I have not accepted, nor intend to accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit (apart from payment for auditing services) from any proponent, owner or operator of the project, their employees or any interested party. I have not knowingly allowed, nor intend to allow my colleagues to do so.

Notes:

- a) Under section 10.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) in a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a material respect. The proponent of an approved project must not fail to include information in (or provide information for inclusion in) a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows

that the information is materially relevant to the monitoring or audit. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, \$1 million and for an individual, \$250,000; and

- b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Auditor	Gary Selwyn
Signature	<i>Gary Selwyn</i>
Qualification	Alternate Lead Auditor BSc (Hons), MSc Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Registered Principal Environmental Auditor
Company	KPMG

Independent Audit Report Declaration Form	
Project Name	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm
Consent Number	SSD-6697
Description of Project	Construction and operation of up to 37 wind turbines
Project Address	250 Aarons Pass Rd, Pyramul NSW 2850
Proponent	Crudine Ridge Wind Farm Pty Ltd
Title of Audit	Independent Audit No.4
Date	29 July 2025

I declare that I have undertaken the Independent Audit and prepared the contents of the attached Independent Audit Report and to the best of my knowledge:

- i the audit has been undertaken in accordance with relevant condition(s) of consent and the Independent Audit Compliance Requirements (Department 2019);
- ii the findings of the audit are reported truthfully, accurately and completely;
- iii I have exercised due diligence and professional judgement in conducting the audit;
- iv I have acted professionally, objectively and in an unbiased manner;
- v I am not related to any proponent, owner or operator of the project neither as an employer, business partner, employee, or by sharing a common employer, having a contractual arrangement outside the audit, or by relationship as spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- vi I do not have any pecuniary interest in the audited project, including where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain or loss to me or spouse, partner, sibling, parent, or child;
- vii neither I nor my employer have provided consultancy services for the audited project that were subject to this audit except as otherwise declared to DPE prior to the audit; and
- viii I have not accepted, nor intend to accept any inducement, commission, gift or any other benefit (apart from payment for auditing services) from any proponent, owner or operator of the project, their employees or any interested party. I have not knowingly allowed, nor intend to allow my colleagues to do so.

Notes:

- a) Under section 10.6 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person must not include false or misleading information (or provide information for inclusion in) in a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows that the information is false or misleading in a material respect. The proponent of an approved project must not fail to include information in (or provide information for inclusion in) a report of monitoring data or an audit report produced to the Minister in connection with an audit if the person knows

that the information is materially relevant to the monitoring or audit. The maximum penalty is, in the case of a corporation, \$1 million and for an individual, \$250,000; and

- b) The *Crimes Act 1900* contains other offences relating to false and misleading information: section 307B (giving false or misleading information – maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment or 200 penalty units, or both)

Name of Auditor	Manya Narain
Signature	<i>Manya Narain</i>
Qualification	Audit Team Member B. (Hons) Biomedical Engineering
Company	KPMG



Appendix H – Documents Reviewed

Appendix H – Documents Reviewed

The primary documents assessed prior to and after the site visit are as follows:

- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Rev 6, dated 18 June 2024
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Biodiversity Management Plan (Operational), dated 28 February 2024
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Environmental Management Strategy, Rev 11, dated 1 November 2022
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Traffic Management Plan, Rev B, dated 25 June 2024
- DPHI Letter, dated 23 September 2024. Approval of Traffic Management Plan. Ref: SSD-6697-PA-43
- DPHI Letter, dated 26 June 2024. Approval of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan Ref: SSD-6697-PA-44
- DPHI Letter, dated 2 April 2024. Approval of Biodiversity Management Plan (Operations) Ref: SSD-6697-PA-42
- DPHI Letter, dated 14 November 2022. Approval of Environmental Management Strategy Ref: SSD-6697-PA-26
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Community Complaints Register, updated 1 July 2025
- DPHI letter dated 5 September 2023. Ref: SSD-6697-PA-40 – evidence of submission of BBAMP 2nd year
- Ref: PA-46 20 Jan 2025 – evidence of submission of BBAMP Rev 3.2.
- CRWF Maintenance Schedule 2021-2024
- GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, January 2025 Monthly Report
- GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, February 2025 Monthly Report
- GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, March 2025 Monthly Report
- GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, April 2025 Monthly Report
- GE Vernova Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, May 2025 Monthly Report
- Aeronautical Impact Assessment, dated 10 November 2020
- Email from CASA to CWP Renewables Re. Aviation Hazard Lighting
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Noise Compliance Testing, dated October 2022, prepared by Sonus.
- DPHI Letter, dated 13 October 2022. Noise Monitoring Report – Operational Ref: SSD-6697-PA-39.
- Email from EPA to CRWF, RE. Noise Monitoring Report, dated 21 October 2022.
- DPHI Letter to CRWF Re. Operational Noise Monitoring Report Extension of Time. Dated 28 July 2022
- Water Access Licence (WAL) #42932 issued under Water Management Act 2000
- NSW Environmental Protection Licence #21090
- NSW EPA Annual Returns for Licence 21090 – 2023, 2024 and 2025

- Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement made under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, executed on 19 August 2022
- DPHI Letter. REF: PA-28 Extension of Time to Retire Biodiversity Credits, dated 9 June 2022
- NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust, Statement confirming payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund for an offset obligation, dated 2 February 2021
- DPIE - Application to retire biodiversity offsets scheme credits for CRWF Nominees Pty Ltd including CRWF Biodiversity Offsets Scheme Credit Retirement Form 20119, dated 14 July 2021
- Extract of biodiversity offsets being retired. Including sufficient credits for all PCTs listed in Table 5. Transaction date 19 January 2023.
- Crown Lands Audit of Aarons Pass Road, dated 19 April 2023. Ref: DOC22/237118
- CRWF letter to DPHI Re. Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (SSD 6697) – Notification of non-compliance, dated 12 September 2022.
- CRWF letter to DPHI Re. Crudine Ridge Wind Farm (SSD 6697) – Independent Environmental Audit, dated 19 September 2022.
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Environmental Assessment, Volume 1, December 2012 (EA);
- Crudine Ridge Wind Farm, Response to Submissions, January 2019 (RtS);
- Modification Report 1, November 2018;
- Modification Report 2, April 2020; and
- Modification Report 3, August 2020.

