



# ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT SQUADRON ENERGY

## EPBC 2013/7026

### Uungula Wind Farm


3 August 2023 – 2 August 2024



Final

9 October 2024

### Revision Control

Revision	Date	Issue	Author	Reviewed	Approved	Signature
1	09/10/24	Final/Issued	S Kidziak	C Somerville	C Somerville	

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**DECLARATION OF ACCURACY**

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

**Signed****Full name (please print):**

Candice Somerville

**Position (please print):**

Environmental Manager

**Organisation:**

Squadron Energy

**Date:**

17 October 2024

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# 1 Project Description

Uungula Wind Farm (the Project) is an approved wind farm, located in the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), within the Dubbo Regional Council LGA, 14 km east of Wellington, within the NSW Central West.

The Project generally consists of the installation, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of up to 93 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) up to 250 m in height, an energy storage facility (ESF), Ancillary Infrastructure and Temporary Facilities, and is estimated to have an installed generating capacity of approximately 400 MW. The Project will connect to the 330 kV transmission line running approximately east-west within the northern part of the Project Site.

The Project was granted State Significant Development Approval (SSD-6687) by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) in May 2021.

A Modification (SSD-6687-MOD 2) was granted in December 2022, which included the correction of inadvertent and minor errors or misdescriptions of some figures in the Consent following the grant of Modification 1.

The Commonwealth EPBC Approval (EPBC 2013/7026) was granted in August 2021 to Uungula Wind Farm Pty Ltd (ACN 143 399 295). On 8 September 2023, the Approval was transferred to UWF Nominees Pty Ltd (ACN 660 499 221).

The Action commenced on the 11 March 2024, and the project has been progressing with the Public Road Upgrade Works within this reporting period.

This report has been prepared to meet the requirements of Condition 9 of the EPBC 2013/7026, for the reporting period of 3 August 2023 – 2 August 2024.

## 2 Description of Activities

Activities undertaken at UWF during the reporting period included:

- Road Upgrade works, including;
  - Vegetation clearing along Twelve Mile Road
  - Road construction
  - Culverts and drainage construction
  - Erosion and sedimentation control works
- Temporary site office construction at Goolma Road and Twelve Mile Road intersection
- Pre-construction minor works
- Salvage of aboriginal heritage artefacts on the Wind Farm Site.

### 3 Compliance Report

Table 1 Compliance report as per the conditions of EPBC Approval 2013/7026

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Status/comments
1	<p>Within the Project Site and for the Road Upgrade Area, the approval holder must not clear more than:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13.88 ha of Box Gum Grassy Woodland as specified at Annexure C.</li> <li>142ha of potential Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)) habitat as specified at Annexure C.</li> <li>142 ha of potential Regent Honeyeater (<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>) foraging habitat as specified at Annexure C.</li> <li>142 ha of potential Swift Parrot (<i>Lathamus discolor</i>) foraging habitat as specified at Annexure C.</li> <li>125.73 ha of potential Superb Parrot (<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>) foraging habitat as specified at Annexure C.</li> </ol>	Compliant	<p>Project clearing limits have been calculated in consultation with BCS to ensure clearance limits are not exceeded.</p> <p>Clearing required for the Public Road Upgrade works have been recorded and tracked.</p> <p>Maximum clearing for Box Gum Grassy Woodland calculated to be 10.9ha.</p> <p>Maximum clearing for potential Koala habitat calculated to be 105.58ha.</p> <p>Maximum clearing for potential Regent Honeyeater calculated to be 105.58ha.</p> <p>Maximum clearing for potential Swift Parrot calculated to be 105.58ha.</p> <p>Maximum clearing for potential Superb Parrot calculated to be 98.67ha.</p>
2	<p>The approval holder must, within 6 months of commencement of the action, submit to the department a written statement, specifying:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>what clearing has been, or will be, undertaken as part of the action in relation to each of the clearing limits specified in condition 1; and</li> <li>what offsets, calculated and secured in accordance with conditions B21(b) and B22 of the State development consent, will be provided for all Box Gum Grassy Woodland, Koala, Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot foraging habitat and Superb Parrot foraging habitat cleared.</li> </ol> <p>The statement must be endorsed by an accredited assessor under the Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2016 (NSW) before being submitted to the department and must be published on the website within 20 business days of being submitted to the department.</p>	Compliant	<p>The action commenced on the 11 March 2024.</p> <p>A written statement (endorsed) was submitted to the Department on the 11 September, within the 6 months of commencement.</p> <p>The Statement was endorsed by an accredited assessor under the Biodiversity Conservation Act (Accredited Assessor #18056).</p> <p>The statement was published to the Project website on the 2 October, within 20 business days of being submitted to the department.</p>
2A	<p>The biodiversity credits that the approval holder must retire in accordance with condition B22 of the State development consent must address all clearing that will be undertaken as part of this action in respect of Box Gum Grassy Woodland and habitat of Koala, Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot and Superb Parrot.</p>	Not applicable	<p>During the reporting period, the biodiversity credits that will be retired in accordance with condition B22 of the State development consent, have been calculated in consultation with BCS, to ensure it will address all the relevant habitats and community types, in accordance with this condition.</p>

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Status/comments
3	The approval holder must comply with conditions A5, A6 and A7 of Part A, B20, B21, B22, B23, B24, B46, B47 and B48 of Part B and C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C8, C15 of Part C of the State development consent. Conditions C2, C3, C4, C5 and C6 only apply to those plans required under conditions B23, B24, C1 and C8 of the State development consent.	Compliant	The approval holder is maintaining compliance with the noted conditions of the State development consent.
4	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement of the action within 10 business days after the date of commencement of the action.	Compliant	The action commenced 11 March 2024. Written notification to the department was submitted 12 March 2024.
5	If the commencement of the action does not occur within 5 years from the date of this approval, then the approval holder must not commence the action without the prior written agreement of the Minister.	Compliant	The action commenced 11 March 2024, within the 5-year period since the date of the Approval.
6	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records	Compliant	The approval holder is maintaining accurate and complete compliance records.
7	If the Department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the Department within the timeframe specified in the request	Not applicable	The Department has not made any requests during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Status/comments
8	<p>The approval holder must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. submit plans electronically to the Department. The plans required are those specified under conditions B23, B24, C1 and C8 of the State development consent;</li> <li>b. unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, publish each plan on the website within 20 business days of the date that the plan was approved by the NSW Planning Secretary, if the plan requires the approval of the NSW Planning Secretary.</li> <li>c. keep the most recent versions of plans published on the website for the period for which this approval has effect</li> </ol>	Compliant	<p>In accordance with the requirements of the State development consent, the following plans have been approved by the NSW Planning Secretary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) (B23), approved by the NSW Planning Secretary on 22 September 2023. The BMP was submitted to the Department electronically, via email, on 25 September 2023. The BMP was published on the website on 25 September 2023.</li> <li>• Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) (C1), approved by the NSW Planning Secretary on 27 June 2023. The EMS was submitted to the Department electronically, via email, on 30 June 2023. The EMS was published on the website on 29 June 2023.</li> <li>• Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP) (B24), approved by the NSW Planning Secretary on 22 February 2024. The BBAMP was submitted to the Department electronically, via email, on 26 February 2024. The BBAMP was published on the website on 26 February 2024.</li> <li>• The Final Layout Plan v2 (C8) was revised in response to feedback provided by DPE on 7 November 2023. No approval is required from the NSW Planning Secretary The Final Layout Plan was submitted to the Department electronically, via email, on 10 November 2023 The Final Layout Plan published on the website on 10 November 2023</li> </ul>



Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Status/comments
9	<p>The approval holder must prepare a compliance report addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans and strategies from the State development consent that are referred to in this approval, every calendar year on the anniversary of the date of this approval, or otherwise in accordance with an annual date that has been agreed to in writing by the Minister. The approval holder must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>publish each compliance report on a website within 3 months following the relevant 12- month period</li> <li>notify the Department by email that a compliance report has been published on the website and provide the website's link for the compliance report within five business days of the date of publication</li> <li>keep all compliance reports publicly available on the website until this approval expires</li> </ol>	Compliant	<p>The 2021-2022 Compliance Report was published to the website on 24 October 2022. An email was sent to the Department on the same day notifying of compliance.</p> <p>The 2022-2023 Compliance Report was published to the website on 2 November 2023. An email was sent to the Department on the same day notifying of compliance.</p> <p>This Compliance Report has been prepared in relation to the twelve-month period between 3 August 2023 to 2 August 2024. This Compliance Report will be published on the Project website within 3 months of the Anniversary date 3 August 2023 (i.e. by 3 November 2024).</p> <p>Within 5 business days of publishing this Compliance Report online, the Department will be notified by email in accordance with this Condition.</p>
10	<p>The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any: incident, or non-compliance with the conditions, or non-compliance with the commitments made in plans. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than two business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance. The notification must specify:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>any condition which is in breach</li> <li>a short description of the incident and/or non-compliance</li> <li>the location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available</li> </ol>	Not applicable	There has been no incident or non-compliance recorded with the conditions during the reporting period.
11	<p>The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any incident or noncompliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance, specifying:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future.</li> <li>the potential impacts of the incident or non-compliance.</li> <li>the method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.</li> </ol>	Not applicable	There has been no incident or non-compliance recorded with the conditions during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance status	Status/comments
12	The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the Minister	Not applicable	The Minister has not made a request for any independent audit to be undertaken during the reporting period.
13	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the Department.</li> <li>b. only commence the independent audit once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the Department.</li> <li>c. submit an audit report to the Department within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	No independent audit has been completed during the reporting period.
14	The approval holder must publish the audit report on the website within 10 business days of receiving the Department's approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the website until the end date of this approval.	Not applicable	No independent audit has been completed during the reporting period.
15	Within 30 days after the completion of the action, the approval holder must notify the Department in writing and provide completion data.	Not applicable	The action had not been completed during the reporting period.
16	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any proposed change to the State development consent that may relate to protected matters within 5 business days of formally proposing a change or within 5 business days becoming aware of any proposed change.	Compliant	The approval holder notified the Department of a proposed change to the State development consent (Modification 2) on 23/08/2022.
17	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any change to the State development consent conditions that may relate to protected matters, within 10 business days of a change to conditions being finalised.	Compliant	Modification 2 was approved by the NSW Minister for Planning on 2/12/2022. The approval holder notified the Department of a finalised change to the State development consent (Mod 2) on 8/12/2022.

## 4 New environmental risks

During the reporting period, UWF advanced with pre-construction minor works until 5 May 2024, when the Public Road Upgrade works began, triggering the EPBC action. All activities have been conducted in compliance with approval conditions and aligned with UWF management plans.

No new environmental risks were identified during this reporting period.

## 5 Report Summary

During the reporting period 3 August 2023 – 2 August 2024, the Project has complied with all applicable conditions of the EPBC Approval 2013/7026.

Squadron Energy is Australia's leading renewable energy company. Proudly Australian owned, our mission is to be a driving force in Australia's transition to a clean energy future by providing green power to our customers.

We develop, operate and own renewable energy assets in Australia, with 1.1 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy in operation and a development pipeline of 20GW.

With proven experience and expertise across the project lifecycle, we work with local communities and our customers to lead the transition to Australia's clean energy future.

Squadron Energy acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

