

Uungula Wind Farm

Biodiversity Management Plan

31 August 2023


SQUADRON
ENERGY



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B	18/03/22	Final Draft – issued for consultation	Kalya Abbey (ELA)	Rachel Murray (ELA)	Leanne Cross
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Abbreviations

Term	Meaning
AHD	Australian Height Datum
BAM	Biodiversity Assessment Method
BC Act	NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
BCS	NSW Department of Planning and Environment's Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate
BMP	Biodiversity Management Plan
BVT	Biometric Vegetation Type
CCC	Community Consultative Committee
CEEC	Critically Endangered Ecological Community
DPE	NSW Department of Planning and Environment
DRC	Dubbo Regional Council
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ELA	Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd
EMS	Environmental Management System
EP&A Act	NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
EPBC Act	Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
EPC Contractor	Engineering Procurement and Construction Contractor; also refers to any other principal contracting entity engaged on the Project.
ESCP	Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
ESF	Energy Storage Facility
HBT	Hollow-bearing tree
MW	Megawatts
SSD	State Significant Development
SQE	Squadron Energy Pty Ltd
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
UWF	Uungula Wind Farm; the Project
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator

Key Terms

Term	Definition
APZ	Asset Protection Zones
Clearing	As defined in Part 5A of the Local Land Services Act 2013 and does not include Pruning.
Development Consent	State significant development consent to carry out the Project granted by the consent authority under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (SSD-6687 and associated modifications)
Development Corridor	The Development Corridor, defined in the Development Consent and shown in Appendix 2 of the Development Consent (as modified).
Energy Storage Facility (ESF)	Compound for storing and discharging energy comprised of buildings, shipping containers and other infrastructure required to connect the ESF, WTGs, and Substations via underground and/or overhead cables.
Final Development Footprint	The Final Development Footprint, inclusive of all earthworks associated with Permanent Infrastructure and Temporary Facilities required for the construction of the project, which will be informed by the micro-siting and detailed design to be completed prior to and during the construction phase of the development.
Ground Disturbance	Activities that cut into the existing ground surface. For the absence of doubt this does not include activities that occur on the ground surface including but not limited to driving vehicles on the ground, parking vehicles, placing infrastructure or materials such as stockpiles on the ground.
Hollow bearing tree	A living or dead tree that has at least one hollow. A tree is considered to contain a hollow if: (a) the entrance can be seen; (b) the entrance width is at least 5 cm; (c) the hollow appears to have depth (i.e. solid wood cannot be seen beyond the entrance); and (d) the hollow is at least 1 m above the ground.
Indicative Development Footprint	<p>The indicative extent of ground disturbance as assessed in the Project EIS and Amendment Report. The Indicative Development Footprint of the EIS includes but is not limited to earthworks associated with Permanent Infrastructure and Temporary Facilities (other than Temporary Field Laydown Areas) in the Project Site. For the absence of doubt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The oversail of WTGs may extend beyond the Indicative Development Footprint but will be within the Project Site. • Temporary Field Laydown Areas may occur outside the Indicative Development Footprint (refer to Temporary Field Laydown Areas definition).
Internal Roads	The roads established within the Project Site for the purposes of constructing, operating, maintaining and decommissioning the Project (sometimes referred to as 'tracks' or 'access tracks') and includes all waterway crossings).
Meteorological Masts	Temporary and permanent masts up to hub height of the WTGs and of a guyed, narrow lattice or tubular steel design and concrete footings of approximately 4 m ² for each of the mast and guy wires. Guy wires may extend beyond 100 m from the base of the mast. The final number and location of the masts will be determined post-Development Consent, post-WTG selection and detailed design. The masts and the guy wires that secure them may need to be located outside of the Development Corridor, however they will remain within the Project Site.
Permanent Infrastructure	Infrastructure that will remain on the Project Site during for the operational phase of the Project, including WTGs, ESF and Ancillary Infrastructure.
Pruning	The selective removal of certain parts of a tree or shrub such as branches, limbs or foliage.
Project Site	The Site, as shown on Figure 1 of this plan.
Sensitive Vegetation	Vegetation/ habitat for which there is a clearing limit specified in the Development Consent Condition B20, and Condition 1 of EPBC Approval.
Temporary Field Laydown Areas	Areas that components may be placed on the ground in preparation for moving or relocating around the Project Site. These areas will mostly not require earthworks and therefore are outside of, and not included in the Indicative Development Footprint. They will occur within the Project Site.
Temporary Facilities	Facilities used for the construction, repowering and/or decommissioning of the Project, including but not limited to temporary site offices, amenities, and compounds, rock crushing facilities, concrete or

Term	Definition
	asphalt batching plants, stockpiles and materials storage compounds, Temporary Field Laydown Areas, minor 'work front' construction access roads and temporary Meteorological Masts.
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator; turbines used for the generation of electricity by wind, including the tower, blades and all associated components.
Note: All other definitions are per the Development consent	

1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

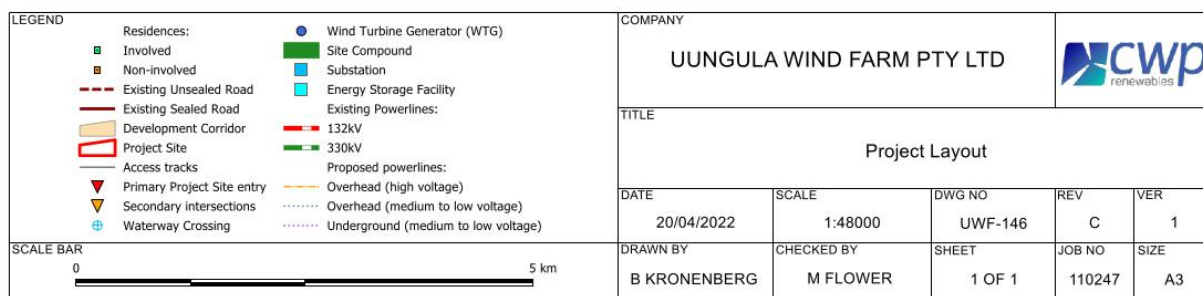
This Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) has been prepared by Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) for Uungula Wind Farm Pty Ltd (the Proponent) for the Uungula Wind Farm (UWF; the Project) to meet the NSW and Commonwealth requirements for biodiversity management. The Project involves the construction, operation and decommissioning of a utility-scale wind farm, energy storage facility and associated infrastructure in the Central-West region of New South Wales (NSW), 14km east of Wellington. The Project has approval for up to 93 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and battery storage of 150 megawatts (MW) delivery capacity.

The Project has obtained State Significant Development Consent (SSD 6687 Mod 1) under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and Controlled Action Approval (EPBC 2013/7026) under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The Project landform is undulating with numerous valleys and peaks. Land use is agricultural and the landscape has been considerably altered historically with gentle slopes cleared for grazing and some cropping. Remnant vegetation is generally around creek lines and in steeper areas. The Indicative Development Footprint covers approximately 615 ha, designed to follow the ridgelines where WTGs are located, avoiding native vegetation where possible.

The approved general layout of the Project, including the Development Corridor, Indicative Development Footprint, location of tracks, infrastructure is shown below in Figure 1. A full description of UWF is provided with the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and subsequent Submissions Report and Amendment Report. This information can be accessed on the UWF website at:

<https://squadronenergy.com/our-projects/uungula-wind-farm>.



Uungula Wind Farm
31/08/23

1.2 Purpose and Objectives of the BMP

This BMP has been prepared to meet the relevant conditions of SSD 6687 and EPBC Approval 2013/7026.

This BMP describes the biodiversity management measures that will be implemented to avoid, minimise, and mitigate impacts associated with the Project, during design, construction, and operation. A program to monitor the effectiveness of management measures has been developed, with triggers identified for further corrective actions to be implemented as required.

This BMP has been written to complement other management plans for the Project and has been developed as a component of, and is to be read in conjunction with, the Project's Environmental Management Strategy (EMS). The development will adhere to the approved Biodiversity Management Plan and the conditions of consent, including those listed below in Table 1.

Table 1 details the biodiversity conditions relevant to SSD 6687 and EPBC 2013/7026 and provides a reference to sections of the BMP where the approval condition has been addressed.

Once approved, in accordance with the Development Consent Condition C16, this BMP will be published and made publicly available on the Uungula Wind Farm website: <http://cwprenewablesquadronenergy.com/our-projects/uungula-wind-farm>

The development will adhere to the approved Biodiversity Management Plan and the conditions of consent, including those listed below in Table 1.

Table 1: Relevant approval conditions

Condition of Approval	Requirements	Section this is addressed
SSD 6687		
Part A Condition A2	TERMS OF CONSENT The development may only be carried out: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> in compliance with the conditions of this consent [SSD 6687]; in accordance with all written direction of the Planning Secretary; generally in accordance with the EIS; and generally in accordance with the Development Layout in Appendix 2 [of SSD 6687]. 	This plan
Part A Condition A7	LIMITS ON CONSENT Micro-siting restrictions WTGs and ancillary infrastructure may be micro-sited without further approval providing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the surface distance remains within the development corridor (with the exception of wind monitoring masts) shown on the figure in Appendix 2 [of SSD 6687]; no WTG is moved more than 100 metres from the relevant GPS coordinates shown in Appendix 2 [of SSD 6687]; the revised location of the blade of a WTG is at least 50 metres from the canopy of existing hollow-bearing trees; or where the proposed location of the blade of a WTG is already within 50 metres of the canopy of existing hollow-bearing trees, the revised location is not any closer to the existing hollow-bearing trees. the revised location of the WTG and/or ancillary infrastructure would not result in any non-compliance with the conditions of this consent [SSD 6687]; and the wind monitoring masts are located within the development corridor where possible and their development would not result in any non-compliance with the conditions of this consent [SSD 6687]. 	Section 3.2.2
Part A Condition A9	EVIDENCE OF CONSULTATION	Appendix A

Condition of Approval	Requirements	Section this is addressed
	<p>Where conditions of this consent require consultation with an identified party, the Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> consult with the relevant party prior to submitting the subject document to the Planning Secretary for approval; and provide details of the consultation undertaken including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the outcome of that consultation, matters resolved and unresolved; and details of any disagreement remaining between the party consulted and the Applicant and how the Applicant has addressed the matters not resolved. 	
Part A Condition A13	<p>COMPLIANCE</p> <p>The Applicant must ensure that all of its employees, contractors (and their sub-contractors) are made aware of, and are instructed to comply with, the conditions of this consent relevant to activities they carry out in respect of the development.</p>	Section 3.1
Part B Condition B20	<p>BIODIVERSITY</p> <p><i>Restrictions on clearing and habitat</i></p> <p>The Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28.73 ha of BC Act listed White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Woodland CEEC; 13.88 ha of EPBC Act listed White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland CEEC; is cleared for the development; and Minimise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the impacts of the development on hollow-bearing trees; the impacts of the development on threatened bird and bat populations; and the clearing of native vegetation and key habitat. 	Section 3.1 Section 3.2 Section 3.3 Section 3.4 Section 3.5 Section 3.6 Section 3.8
PART B Condition B21	<p>BIODIVERSITY</p> <p><i>Biodiversity Offsets</i></p> <p>Unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, prior to the commencement of construction, the Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> update the baseline mapping of the vegetation and key habitat within the development corridor; calculate the biodiversity offset credit liabilities for the development in accordance with the Framework for Biodiversity Assessment under the NSW Biodiversity Offset Policy for Major Projects <p>in consultation with BCS, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</p>	Sections 2.2 and 2.3
Part B Condition B23	<p>BIODIVERSITY</p> <p><i>Biodiversity Management Plan</i></p> <p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan for the development to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> be prepared in consultation with [the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Directorate) BCS; and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a description of the measures that would be implemented for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimising the amount of native vegetation clearing within the approved development footprint; minimising the loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows; 	Section 1.3 Appendix A Section 3.2 Section 3.3, 3.4

Condition of Approval	Requirements	Section this is addressed																
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– minimising the impacts on fauna onsite, including undertaking pre-clearance surveys;– minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and ‘at risk’ species;– rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas;– protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area;– maximising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the Project Site;– collecting and propagating seed (where relevant);– controlling weeds and feral pests;– controlling erosion; and– bushfire management;• a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures. <p>Following the Planning Secretary’s approval, the Applicant must implement the Biodiversity Management Plan.</p>	<p>Section 3.5</p> <p>Section 3.6</p> <p>Section 3.7</p> <p>Section 3.8</p> <p>Section 3.9</p> <p>Section 3.10</p> <p>Section 3.11</p> <p>Section 3.12</p> <p>Section 3.13</p> <p>Section 4</p> <p>Section 1.2</p>																
Part B Condition B46	<p>DECOMMISSIONING AND REHABILITATION</p> <p><i>Rehabilitation objectives – decommissioning</i></p> <p>Within 18 months of the cessation of operations, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise, the Applicant must rehabilitate the Project Site to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This rehabilitation must comply with the objectives in Table 3 [of SSD 6687].</p> <p>Table 3: Rehabilitation objectives</p> <table><tr><th>Feature</th><th>Objective</th></tr><tr><td><i>Development site (as a whole)</i></td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Safe, stable and non-polluting</i><p><i>Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</i></p></td></tr><tr><td><i>Revegetation</i></td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EIS</i></td></tr><tr><td><i>Above ground wind turbine infrastructure (excluding wind turbine pads)</i></td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise</i></td></tr><tr><td><i>Wind turbine pads</i></td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be covered with soil and/or rock and revegetated</i></td></tr><tr><td><i>Above ground ancillary infrastructure (including the battery storage facility)</i></td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</i></td></tr><tr><td><i>Internal access roads</i></td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</i><p><i>Underground cabling</i></p></td></tr><tr><td><i>Underground cabling</i></td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise</i></td></tr></table>	Feature	Objective	<i>Development site (as a whole)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Safe, stable and non-polluting</i> <p><i>Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</i></p>	<i>Revegetation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Restore native vegetation generally as identified in the EIS</i>	<i>Above ground wind turbine infrastructure (excluding wind turbine pads)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise</i>	<i>Wind turbine pads</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be covered with soil and/or rock and revegetated</i>	<i>Above ground ancillary infrastructure (including the battery storage facility)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</i>	<i>Internal access roads</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless an agreed alternative use is identified to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary</i> <p><i>Underground cabling</i></p>	<i>Underground cabling</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise</i>	<p>Section 3.7</p> <p>Section 4</p>
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<i>Development site (as a whole)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Safe, stable and non-polluting</i> <p><i>Minimise the visual impact of any above ground ancillary infrastructure agreed to be retained for an alternative use as far as is reasonable and feasible</i></p>																	
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<i>Underground cabling</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>To be decommissioned and removed, unless the Planning Secretary agrees otherwise</i>																	

Condition of Approval	Requirements	Section this is addressed
	<p><i>Land use</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore or maintain land capability to pre-existing use 	
	<p><i>Community</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure public safety at all times 	
Part B Condition B47	<p>Progressive rehabilitation</p> <p>The Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> rehabilitate all areas of the Project Site not proposed for future disturbance progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable following construction or decommissioning; minimise the total area exposed at any time; and where it is not possible to carry out measures for permanent rehabilitation, employ interim rehabilitation strategies to minimise dust generation, soil erosion and weed incursion until such time that it is. 	Section 3.7
EPBC 2013/7026		
Part A Conditions 1 - 3	<p>Listed threatened species and ecological communities</p> <p>The objective of conditions 1 to 3 is to minimise impacts and compensate for residual impacts of the action on EPBC Act listed threatened species and ecological communities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Within the Project Site and for the Road Upgrade Area, the approval holder must not clear more than: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14.15 ha of Box Gum Grassy Woodland as specified at Annexure C; 143.13 ha of potential Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)) habitat as specified at Annexure C [of EPBC 2013/7026]; 143.13 ha of potential Regent Honeyeater (<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>) foraging habitat as specified at Annexure C [of EPBC 2013/7026]; 143.13 ha of potential Swift Parrot (<i>Lathamus discolor</i>) foraging habitat as specified at Annexure C [of EPBC 2013/7026]; and 126.86 ha of potential Superb Parrot (<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>) foraging habitat as specified at Annexure C [of EPBC 2013/7026]. The approval holder must, within 6 months of commencement of the action, submit to the department a written statement, specifying: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 What offsets, calculated and secured in accordance with condition B21(b) and B22 of the State development consent, will be provided for all Box Gum Grassy Woodland; Koala, Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot and Superb Parrot. <p>The statement must be endorsed by an accredited assessor under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW) and must be published on the website within 20 business days of being submitted to the department.</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. 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 [SSD 6687]. 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 [SSD 6687]. 	<p>Section 3.2</p> <p>Section 3.3</p> <p>As above</p>

1.3 Consultation

Per the requirements of condition B23, consultation with BCS has been undertaken during the preparation of this BMP for UWF. Appendix A provides a consultation log detailing the outcomes of the consultation, matters resolved and unresolved and details of any disagreement remaining to meet the requirements of condition A9.

1.4 Project Environmental Management Strategy

This BMP has been written to complement other management plans and has been developed as a component of, and must be read in conjunction with, the Project's Environmental Management Strategy (EMS). The EMS provides the strategic framework for environmental management of the project in accordance with Development Consent Condition C1.

1.5 Project additional compliance requirements

In addition to the Conditions listed in The development will adhere to the approved Biodiversity Management Plan and the conditions of consent, including those listed below in Table 1.

Table 1, Appendix B outlines how the project will comply with a range of additional Development Consent Conditions, including:

- Evidence of Consultation (Condition A9);
- Compliance (Condition A13);
- Community Consultative Committee (Condition A20);
- Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs (Condition C2);
- Staging, Combining and Updating Strategies, Plans or Programs (Condition C3, C4, C5 & C6);
- Notification of Department (Condition C7);
- Submission of Final Layout Plans (Condition C8);
- Submission of Works as Executed Plans (Condition C9);
- Incident Notification (Condition C10);
- Non-Compliance Notification (Conditions C11, C12 & C13); and
- Access to Information (Condition C16).

2 Existing Environment

2.1 Overview

The topography of the Project Site is gently undulating with numerous valleys and peaks. Elevations vary from 359 m to 705 m AHD (Australian Height Datum); averaging 543 m AHD. The character of the landscape has been altered considerably since European settlement due to vegetation clearing for agricultural use.

2.1.1 Land use

All land within and surrounding the Project is zoned RU1 Primary Production. The Project Site is predominately used for livestock grazing, with some areas of cropping/cultivation present. Grazing land has been improved with the introduction of exotic pasture species. Surrounding land use includes extensive agriculture, residential dwellings associated with agricultural properties, State Conservation Areas and the Lake Burrendong State Recreation Area surrounding Lake Burrendong to the south of the Project Site.

2.1.2 Hydrology

The Project lies within the Macquarie River catchment area which spans over 74,000 km², originating near Bathurst in Central Western NSW and travelling generally north-west through the towns of Wellington, Dubbo, Narromine and Warren.

Burrendong Dam, approximately 8 km south of the southern boundary of the Project, provides planned environmental water and stock and domestic flows. The NSW Government also manages licensed water for the environment.

The Cudgegong River, a main tributary of the Macquarie River, runs southwards east of the Project Site with several smaller tributaries running through the landscape comprising 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th order Strahler streams and ephemeral creeks, including Ungula Creek, Bourke's Creek, Mitchell Creek, Ben Buckley Creek, Oxley's Creek, Bulls Gully and Ilgingery Creek. Flows from the Cudgegong River confluence with the Macquarie River downstream of Burrendong Dam. The Macquarie River drains to the Macquarie Marshes and the Barwon-Darling River, which joins the Murray River in Southern NSW before flowing into the Southern Ocean.

2.2 Vegetation

Vegetation was mapped within the Development Corridor, as per the approved layout shown above in Figure 1. Native vegetation comprised of modified grasslands interspersed with pockets of remnant woodland vegetation, areas of cleared and exotic dominated vegetation, and farm dams. Remnant native vegetation comprises *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha* (Red Stringybark) and *E. dealbata* (Tumbledown Red Gum) on the upper slopes with *Callitris endlicheri* (Black Cypress Pine), *Brachychiton populneus* (Kurrajong), *E. sideroxylon* (Mugga Ironbark), *E. albens* (White Box), *E. melliodora* (Yellow Box) and *E. blakelyi* (Blakely's Red Gum) on the lower slopes.

Vegetation across the Development Corridor (and across the Final Development Footprint) has been stratified into 13 Vegetation Zones (VZ) as detailed below in Table 2.

The baseline mapping of the vegetation within the Development Corridor has been updated in accordance with Condition B21(a) of the Development Consent. Planning Secretary approval of the updated baseline mapping of vegetation was obtained on 23 September 2021.

Table 2: Vegetation Zones within the Indicative Development Footprint (assessed in the EIS)

Vegetation Community (BVT)	Description	VZ	Condition	BC CEEC Act	EPBC Act CEEC	Area (ha)
CW112	Blakely's Red Gum - Yellow Box grassy woodland of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion	1	Good condition woodland	X	X	6.28
		2	Grassland	-	-	60.91
CW177	Red Stringybark woodland of the dry slopes of the South Western Slopes Bioregion	3	Good condition woodland	-	-	17.39
		4	Grassland	-	-	26
		5	Weedy/open/disturbed woodland	-	-	7.74
CW202	Tumbledown Red Gum - Black Cypress Pine - Red Box low woodland of hills of the South Western Slopes	6	Good condition woodland	-	-	16.26
		7	Grassland	-	-	11.27
CW211	White Box - Rough-barked Apple alluvial woodland on the NSW western slopes	8	Good condition woodland	X	X	7.6
		9	Grassland	-	-	43.49
CW212	White Box - Tumbledown Gum woodland on fine-grained sediments on the NSW central western slopes	10	Good condition woodland	X	-	14.56
		11	Grassland	-	-	293.47
		12	Weedy/open/disturbed woodland	-	-	72.15
		13	Grassland	-	-	37.11
Total						614.86

Following micro-siting of turbines and ancillary infrastructure (refer section 3.2.2) and detailed design (refer section 3.2.3), a Final Development Footprint will be established with reduced impact areas compared to the Indicative Development Footprint described above in Table 2.

Impacts to these vegetation types will be appropriately offset in accordance with the conditions of the NSW Development Consent SSD 6687 (and EPBC Approval 2013/7026 as relevant).

2.2.1 Threatened Ecological Communities

A proportion of the native vegetation mapped within the Development Corridor is determined to be the BC Act listed Critically Endangered Ecological Community (CEEC), White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland.

A proportion of the BC Act listed CEEC is also mapped as the EPBC Act listed community, White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland CEEC.

Both the State and Commonwealth approvals include strict clearing limits on the areas of CEEC. Management actions to ensure compliance with the clearing limits are detailed below in Section 3.2. The mapped CEEC within the Indicative Development Footprint is shown below in Figure 2. Note - it is intended that a Final Development Footprint will be produced based on the outcomes of micro-siting (section 3.2.2) and detailed design (section 3.2.3).

Impacts to the areas of CEEC within the Final Development Footprint will be appropriately offset in accordance with the conditions of the NSW Development Consent SSD 6687 and EPBC Approval 2013/7026, through offsetting those vegetation communities aligned with the CEECs.

2.2.2 Threatened flora

No threatened flora species have been identified previously within the Project Site. Potential habitat was identified for the species listed below in Table 3. Targeted surveys have been undertaken in areas of suitable habitat for each of these species, which did not record any of these species. Whilst no threatened flora species have been recorded within the Development Corridor, impacts to any previously unrecorded threatened flora will be managed through the implementation of the micro-siting, pre-clearing and unexpected threatened species finds procedures detailed in this BMP.

Table 3: Threatened flora species with potential habitat in the Project Site

Scientific name	Common name	BC Act	EPBC Act
<i>Dichanthium setosum</i>	Bluegrass	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
<i>Swainsona sericea</i>	Silky Swainson-pea	Vulnerable	-
<i>Swainsona recta</i>	Small Purple-pea	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Zieria obcordata</i>	Granite zieria	Endangered	Endangered

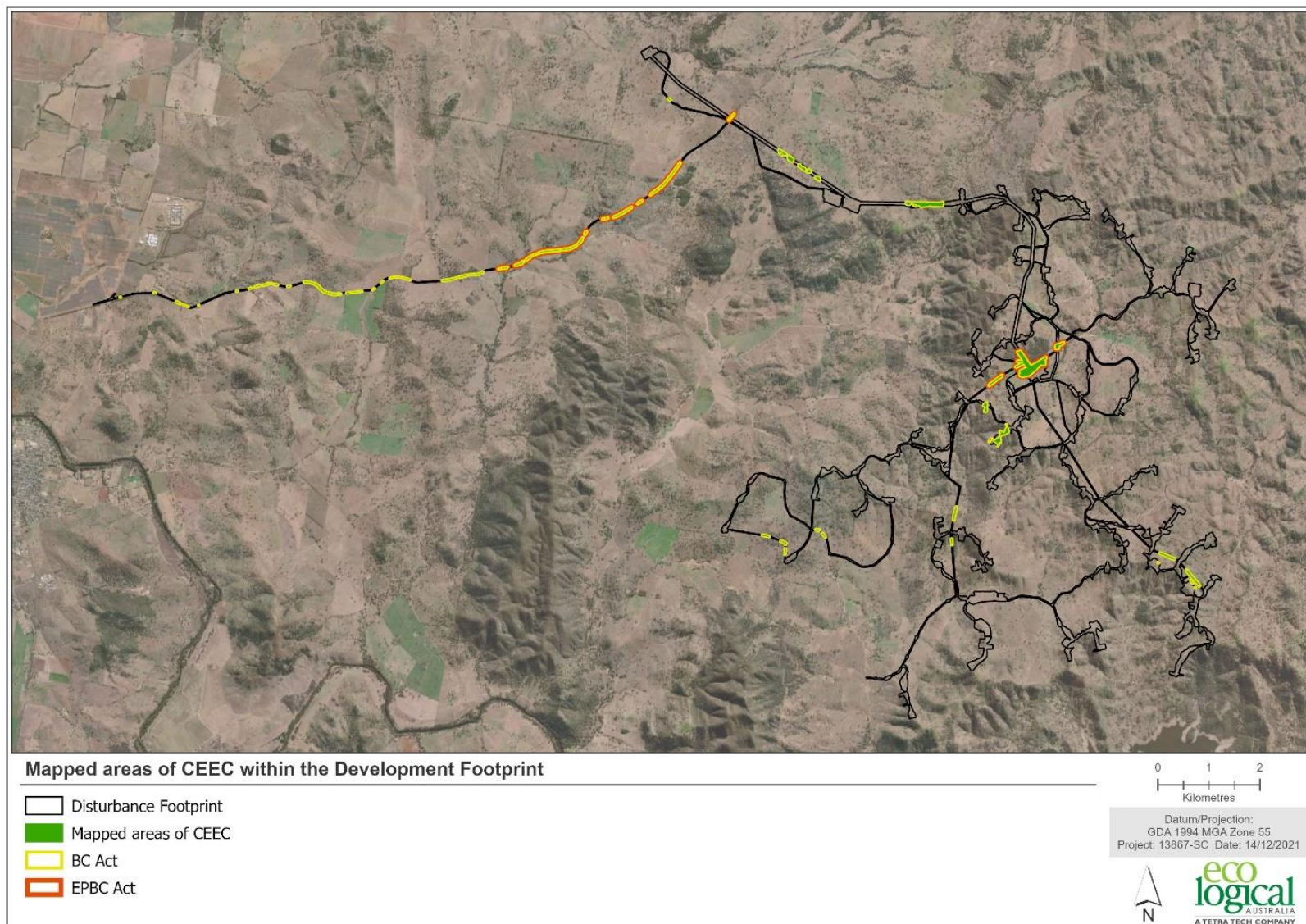


Figure 2: Mapped areas of CEEC within the Indicative Development Footprint of the EIS

2.2.3 State and regional priority weeds

The NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 places restrictions on the movement of 'priority weeds' in NSW. State priority weeds must not be moved anywhere in NSW. Regional priority weeds must not be moved within certain Local Land Services regions of NSW. The Project Site is situated within the Central West Region and is therefore subject to the requirements of the [Central West Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023 – 2027](#). The Site is located in proximity to the Central Tablelands Region, and therefore the requirements of the [Central Tablelands Regional Weed Management Plan 2023 – 2027](#) are also being considered in this BMP.

Priority weeds of the Central West and Central Tablelands Regions, which have been recorded within the Project Site, are listed below in Table 4.

Table 4: State and Regional priority weeds recorded within the Project Site

Scientific name	Common name	Priority weed status – Central West RSWMP 2023 - 2027	Priority weed status – Central Tablelands RSWMP 2023 - 2027
<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Serrated Tussock	State priority weed – Containment and/or Asset Protection. Regional priority weed – Containment.	State priority weed – Containment and/or Asset Protection. Regional priority weed – Asset Protection.
<i>Opuntia stricta</i>	Prickly Pear	State priority weed – Containment and/or Asset Protection. Regional priority weed – Asset Protection.	State priority weed – Containment and/or Asset Protection. Regional priority weed – Asset Protection.
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> sp. aggregate	Blackberry	State priority weed – Containment and/or Asset Protection. Regional priority weed – Containment. National listing: WoNS.	State priority weed – Containment and/or Asset Protection. Regional priority weed – Asset Protection. National listing: WoNS.
<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	Bathurst Burr	Not listed as a State or Regional priority weed. Listed as a 'Species of Concern' – Manage weed.	Not listed as a State or Regional priority weed.

2.3 Fauna and Habitat

The Project Site comprises predominately grassland pasture with pockets of remnant woodland generally occurring on the ridges and slopes. Scattered trees are typically remnant hollow-bearing trees (HBTs) providing potential habitat to a range of fauna species including birds, bats and marsupials. Riparian habitat is limited to small ephemeral creek lines and has mostly been cleared of vegetation.

Habitat features include an abundance of fallen timber and exposed scattered rock through much of the Project Site. No caves or escarpments have been identified during any of the field surveys undertaken to date, and discussions with landowners concluded that these features are not present. A number of very old disused mine adits were identified in the slopes and valleys and were surveyed for microbats – these have been excluded from the Development Corridor and will not be affected by the Project.

The baseline mapping of the key habitat within the Development Corridor has been updated in accordance with Condition B21(a) of the Development Consent. Planning Secretary approval of the updated baseline mapping of key habitat was obtained on 23 September 2021.

2.3.1 Threatened and migratory fauna

A number of threatened fauna species have been previously recorded within the Project Site, with potential habitat present for a range of species. Threatened fauna species known, or with the potential to occur in the Project Site due to the presence of habitat, are listed below in Table 5.

Table 5: Threatened fauna species known or with the potential to occur in the Project Site

Scientific name	Common name	BC Act	EPBC Act	Occurrence within the Project Site
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe	E	E	Potential
<i>Melithreptus gularis</i> <i>subsp. Gularis</i>	Black-chinned Honeyeater (eastern subspecies)	V		Potential
<i>Grus rubicunda</i>	Brolga	V		Potential
<i>Climacteris picumnus</i> <i>subsp. Victoriae</i>	Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)	V		Potential
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stone-curlew	E		Potential
<i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i>	Corben's Long-eared Bat	V	V	Potential
<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail	V		Potential
<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>	Flame Robin	V		Potential
<i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>	Freckled Duck	V		Potential
<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo	V		Potential
<i>Pachycephala inornata</i>	Gilbert's Whistler	V		Potential
<i>Calyptrorhynchus lathamii</i>	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	V		Potential
<i>Pomatostomus temporalis</i> <i>subsp. Temporalis</i>	Grey-crowned Babbler (eastern subspecies)	V		Potential
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	V	V	Known
<i>Melanodryas cucullata</i> <i>subsp. cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin (south-eastern form)	V		Potential
<i>Phascogale cinereus</i>	Koala	V	V	Potential
<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat (foraging only)	V	V	Potential
<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	V		Potential
<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Little Lorikeet	V		Potential
<i>Chalinolobus picatus</i>	Little Pied Bat	V		Potential
<i>Suta flagellum</i>	Little Whip Snake	V		Potential
<i>Anseranas semipalmata</i>	Magpie Goose	V		Potential
<i>Lophochroa leadbeateri</i>	Major Mitchell's Cockatoo	V		Potential
<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i>	Masked Owl	V		Potential

Scientific name	Common name	BC Act	EPBC Act	Occurrence within the Project Site
<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>	New Holland Mouse		V	Potential
<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater	V	V	Potential
<i>Ninox strenua</i>	Powerful Owl	V		Potential
<i>Petroica boodang</i>	Scarlet Robin	V		Potential
<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	Speckled Warbler	V		Potential
<i>Circus assimilis</i>	Spotted Harrier	V		Potential
<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	Spotted-tailed Quoll	V	E	Potential
<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	Square-tailed Kite	V		Potential
<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Superb Parrot	V	V	Known
<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	E	CE	Potential
<i>Neophema pulchella</i>	Turquoise Parrot	V		Potential
<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	Varied Sittella	V		Potential
<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat	V		Potential

Impacts to these species will be appropriately offset in accordance with the conditions of the NSW Development Consent SSD 6687 and EPBC Approval 2013/7026, through offsetting vegetation communities which are considered habitat for these species.

Specifically, the EPBC Approval 2013/7026 states clearing limits on woodland vegetation zones associated with the following species:

- 143.13 ha of potential Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus* (combined populations of QLD, NSW and the ACT)) habitat;
- 143.13 ha of potential *Anthochaera phrygia* (Regent Honeyeater) foraging habitat;
- 143.13 ha of potential *Lathamus discolor* (Swift Parrot) foraging habitat; and
- 126.86 ha of potential *Polytelis swainsonii* (Superb Parrot) foraging habitat.

The associated vegetation communities and clearing limits are detailed below in Table 6 and shown in

Figure 3 (Threatened fauna habitats associated with the Indicative Development Footprint). Note - it is intended that a Final Development Footprint will be produced based on the outcomes of micro-siting (section 3.2.2) and detailed design (section 3.2.3).

Table 6: Threatened fauna habitat clearing limits (EPBC Approval 2013/7026)

Species	Associated BVTs*	Vegetation Zone*	Area (ha)	Total clearing limit (ha)
Koala Regent Honeyeater Swift Parrot	CW112	1	6.28	143.13
	CW177	3	18.78	
		5	7.21	
	CW202	6	16.26	
	CW211	8	7.87	
	CW212	10	14.56	
		12	72.15	
Superb Parrot	CW112	1	6.28	126.86
	CW177	3	18.78	
		5	7.21	
	CW211	8	7.87	
	CW212	10	14.56	
		12	72.15	

* BVT = Biometric Vegetation Type. A BVT may occur in a number of different condition classes, each different condition class is designated as a Vegetation Zone. The appearance of a BVT in the column "Associated BVTs" does not mean that all occurrences of forms of that BVT are habitat for those species and subject of these clearing limits. The habitats for these species are assigned according to the Vegetation Zones.

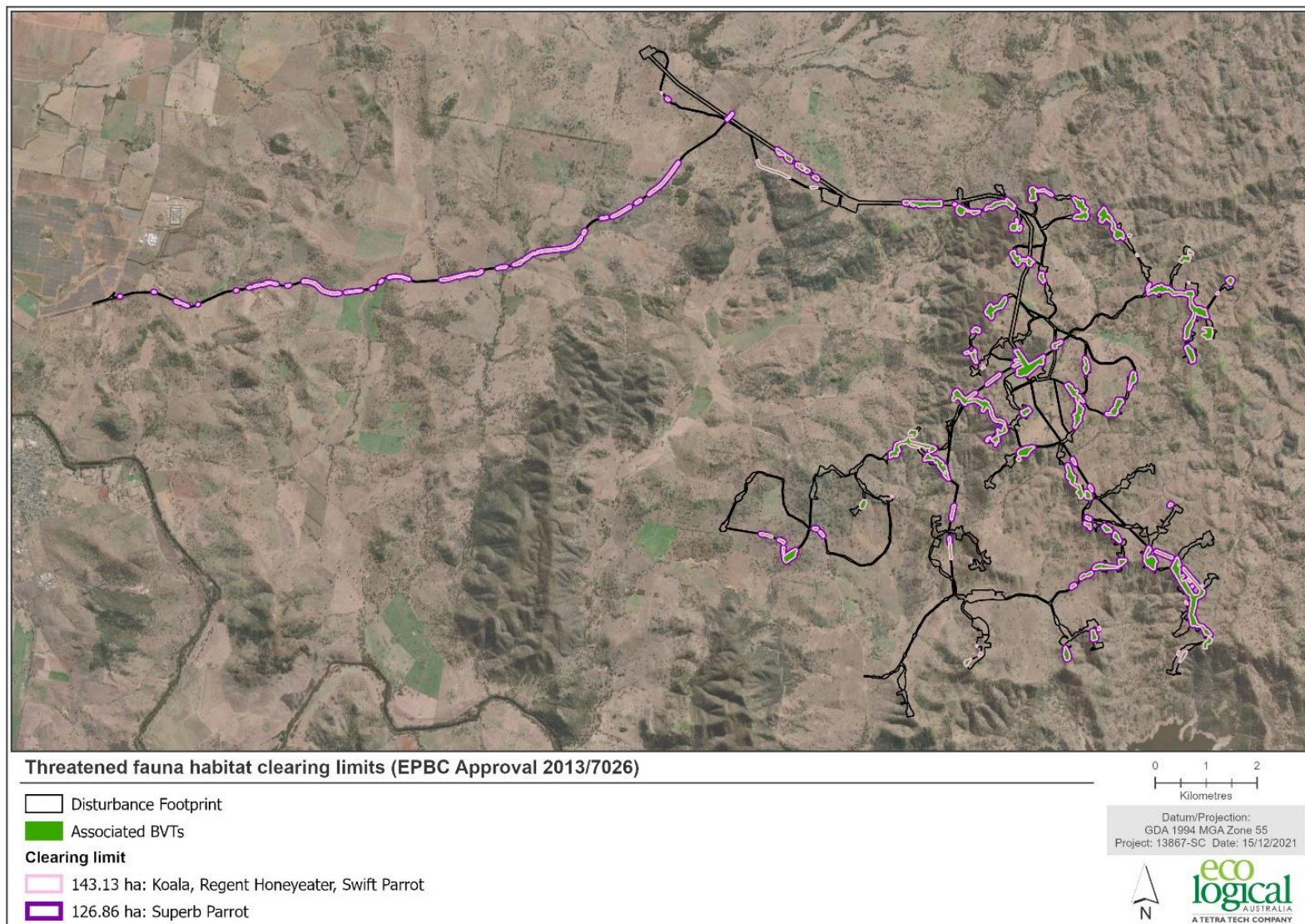


Figure 3: Threatened fauna habitat clearing limits associated with the Indicative Development Footprint of the EIS

3 Biodiversity Management Measures

The biodiversity management measures proposed in this BMP are designed specifically to address the requirements of Condition B23 of SSD 6687. Biodiversity management measures are detailed in this section.

3.1 Site-specific induction

All site personal will be required to undergo a site-specific induction, to be developed and administered by the EPC Contractor. The induction will include:

- an introduction to the Development Consent requirements and the contractor's obligations under this BMP;
- the location of the Development Consent and this BMP;
- an overview of the management measures detailed in the below section;
- a clear communication of roles and responsibilities under this BMP, including any stop-work situations, incident and non-conformances and notification requirements; and
- the detail and location of any sub-plans relevant to this BMP (for example, sediment and erosion control, rehabilitation management programs).

An induction register will be maintained by the EPC Contractor, including the name, date, and confirmation of completion of induction of all personnel.

3.2 Minimising native vegetation disturbance

3.2.1 Consented vegetation clearing limits

The maximum area of native vegetation that can be disturbed, or cleared for the Project is prescribed by both the State and Commonwealth approvals. The consented vegetation clearing limits are summarised below:

- Up to a total of 614.86ha of native vegetation in accordance with the Indicative Development Footprint (see Section 3.2 above), including a maximum of:
 - 28.73 ha of the BC Act listed White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland CEEC;
 - 13.88 ha of the EPBC Act listed Box gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland CEEC;
 - 143.13 ha of potential Koala habitat;
 - 143.13 ha of potential Regent Honeyeater foraging habitat;
 - 143.13 ha of potential Swift Parrot foraging habitat; and
 - 126.86 ha of potential Superb Parrot foraging habitat.

The native vegetation disturbance will be minimised through micro-siting and detailed design, as described in the following sections.

3.2.2 Micro-siting of infrastructure

Prior to commencing construction, micro-siting of WTGs and ancillary infrastructure will be undertaken to inform the detailed design (see section 3.2.3 below) and final layout of the project infrastructure. Micro-siting will involve representatives from the Proponent, the EPC contractor, design engineers and environmental consultants.

The need for further micro-siting may arise during construction to minimise impacts or to address construction conflicts and complexities.

Any micro-siting will be undertaken to comply with Condition A7 of SSD 6687, including:

- The surface disturbance will remain within the development corridor (with the exception of wind monitoring masts) as shown in Figure 1;
- No WTG will be moved more than 100 metres from the relevant GPS coordinates shown in Appendix 2 of SSD-6687;
- Proximity of the WTG to HBTs to ensure that the blade tip is at least 50 m from the canopy of existing hollow-bearing trees;
- The micro-siting of the WTG and/or ancillary infrastructure will not result in any noncompliance with the conditions of consent; and
- Wind monitoring masts will be located within the development corridor where possible and their development will not result in any non-compliance with the conditions of consent.

In addition, the following parameters will be considered when determining the micro-sited position of WTGs and ancillary infrastructure: Reducing the area of native vegetation to be cleared, in particular, CEEC, HBTs, and vegetation identified as habitat for threatened species:

- Siting in areas that are already cleared, for example, existing tracks and disturbed areas, or where vegetation is sparse;
- Maximising terrain features to support construction;
- Enabling safe access and egress for personnel and over-dimensional equipment;
- Identifying optimal positioning of ancillary infrastructure;
- Constructability and geotechnical constraints;
- Optimising energy yield; and
- Micro-siting of WTGs will be completed to meet the requirements of condition A7c to achieve 50m blade to canopy separation with input from a qualified ecologist.

Condition A7c states:

A7. Wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure may be micro-sited without further approval providing:

....

c) the revised location of the blade of a wind turbine is at least 50 metres from the canopy of existing hollow bearing trees; or where the proposed location of the blade of a wind turbine is already within 50 metres of the canopy of existing hollow-bearing trees, the revised location is not any closer to the existing hollow-bearing tree.

To meet this condition and assess compliance, the following actions were undertaken:

- An area of 150m around each approved WTG location was surveyed to identify hollow bearing trees;
- Preliminary micro-siting of WTGs was undertaken;
- Design of the construction pads and other associated WTGs infrastructure was undertaken; and
- A map of each was prepared and overlaid.

Using the mapping layers, a 3D model was created so that topography, tree height and cut and fill at each WTG location were overlain. This allowed accurate calculation of the distance between tree canopy of each hollow bearing tree and the tip of the WTG blade.

Hollow bearing trees that occurred within the permanent infrastructure footprint were trees identified for clearing and no further assessment of these trees were undertaken. Hollow bearing trees that occurred within

the construction zone were assessed further to determine if reasonable and feasible measures could be taken to retain the trees.

All remaining hollow bearing trees identified (from the hollow bearing tree surveys covering 150 m radius around each WTG) were assessed for compliance with the condition. Where the WTG blade tip encroached within 50 m of a hollow bearing tree located outside the permanent infrastructure footprint and construction zone, the WTG is micro-sited away so that at least a 50 m separation distance is achieved.

3.2.3 Detailed design

Prior to and during construction, the Project will be subject to a detailed design process, to be undertaken by the Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contractor. The detailed design process will:

- Confirm which WTG locations are to be constructed from the 93 approved locations;
- Identify the final micro-sited locations of those WTGs and associated infrastructure;
- Assess construction requirements, site compounds and laydown areas;
- Identify micro-sited location of ancillary infrastructure to be constructed for the Project;
- Provide detailed civil and electrical designs for most infrastructure, including the clearance limits required during construction; and
- Result in a Final Development Footprint inclusive of all earthworks associated with Permanent Infrastructure and Temporary Facilities required for the construction of the project.

The detailed design process will seek to minimise clearing of native vegetation, including key threatened species habitat and HBTs. This will be achieved, through selection of construction methodologies, a defined and reduced construction footprint, designing roads, cable routes and other hardstand areas in previously disturbed areas, consolidating linear infrastructure disturbance impacts where possible (eg. underground cable routes) to minimise fragmentation of undisturbed areas, selecting direct access routes to WTGs to limit the area of ground disturbance, and reducing disturbance required for cut and fill batters.

Importantly, the detailed design process will assess compliance with the native vegetation clearing limits. The maps and quantification of the Final Development Footprint will be periodically reviewed and updated consistent with stages of detailed design and construction.

3.2.4 Identifying clearance boundaries

The EPC Contractor's detailed design will define the disturbance boundaries required for construction of the Project. It is intended that the boundaries will be digitally captured and displayed within the Project survey and GIS databases. This data will be made available both digitally and in hard copy map format to inform and guide vegetation clearing, and post-construction for land preparation and rehabilitation requirements.

The data will include all impact-limited biodiversity features within the Final Development Footprint (that is, those for which impact avoidance is required and / or proximity encroachment is not permitted).

The EPC Contractor will be responsible for demarcating vegetation clearing boundaries based on the detailed design and construction requirements, and as detailed below in 3.2.5.

3.2.5 Management of vegetation clearing activities

Vegetation Disturbance Permit

Following completion of micro-siting and finalisation of the detailed design, the EPC Contractor will be responsible for the development of a Vegetation Disturbance Permit to be implemented prior to the commencement of vegetation clearing activities in a given work area.

The Vegetation Disturbance Permit will include the following key elements:

- Pre-construction:
 - Identify the proposed work area;
 - Confirm that the proposed works are within the final detailed design; and
 - Estimate the area (ha) or vegetation to be cleared, and check against the approved clearing limits.
- Construction (detailed in the sections below):
 - Pre-clearing procedure has been completed;
 - The vegetation clearing procedure has been communicated to all relevant personnel;
 - Implementation of the vegetation clearing procedure;
 - Implementation of any active fauna management, including details of capture and release;
 - Details of any unexpected finds;
 - Any relevant information for salvage of resources (see Section 3.9); and
 - Any relevant information for future rehabilitation or revegetation (see Section 3.7).

Pre-clearing procedure

A vegetation pre-clearing procedure is to be developed and implemented by the EPC Contractor prior to commencement of vegetation clearing in a given work area within the Final Development Footprint. The pre-clearing procedure will include, at a minimum, the following steps:

- A preliminary inspection of the Final Development Footprint by the EPC Contractor prior to clearing, to determine:
 - the area of native vegetation to be cleared, including mapped CEEC;
 - the location of HBTs;
 - potential habitat features located within proposed disturbance areas (detailed below in Section 3.2) that may require management during clearing;
 - habitat features (such as large fallen logs and hollows) that can be salvaged where practicable for reuse in rehabilitation areas or in adjoining non-disturbed native vegetation areas (Section 3.7);
 - resident fauna, including actively nesting birds, mammals, tree hollows that may contain roosts, nests or dens, or suspected active microbat roosts that may require active management prior to or during disturbance (see active management protocols below);
 - visual inspection to identify any farm dams which may be impacted;
 - the presence of weed species in proposed work areas, including an estimation of number and spread, to determine if weed management actions are required prior to vegetation clearing to prevent further spread; and
 - the presence of any previously unrecorded threatened flora or fauna species requiring management under the 'Unexpected finds' procedure detailed below.
- Areas of Sensitive Vegetation identified (that is, vegetation and habitat for which there is a clearing limit specified in the Development Consent Condition B20, and Condition 1 of EPBC Approval) will be physically demarcated using a clear and consistent method which is developed by the EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent (for example, bunding, tape, spray paint).
- HBTs within the Final Development Footprint that will be impacted will be marked prior to clearing for the purpose of pre-clearance survey.
- HBTs within 5 m of the construction impact area that will be retained will be marked prior to clearing activities, for the establishment of an exclusion zone and protection from impacts. Fauna habitat features, resident fauna including actively nesting birds identified by the process above will be physically demarcated

using a clear and consistent method which is developed by the EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent.

Vegetation clearing procedure

Where vegetation is to be cleared, the EPC Contractor will be responsible for ensuring the following vegetation clearance measures are implemented:

- The pre-clearing procedure is to be completed prior to commencement of vegetation clearance in a given work area;
- Clearing of trees will be avoided wherever possible;
- Clearing is undertaken only within demarcated work areas;
- During clearing, care will be taken to prevent damage to adjacent tree roots that are not going to be impacted. Where possible, trenches will be dug at least 15 m away from the base of trees to minimise root interference, and outside of drip lines for vegetation to avoid unintended pruning. Where 15 m cannot be achieved, a minimum trench distance from the base of the tree can be calculated using the Tree Protection Zone formula (TPZ Australian Standard 4970-2009). The TPZ is calculated by multiplying the diameter at breast height (DBH – 130 cm above the ground) by twelve. If it is still not possible to achieve a separation distance based on the TPZ calculation, the trench shall be located as far from the tree as practicable, but no closer than 6 m to the tree;
- Pruning of vegetation should be considered wherever possible to reduce the area of vegetation to be cleared; and
- Where vegetation is cleared, large fallen logs and woody debris will be salvaged where it is considered appropriate for use in revegetation or habitat enhancement activities. For example, HBTs requiring removal and cleared larger woody debris will be relocated adjacent to the construction impact area (subject to landowner agreement) into adjacent habitat or placed on rehabilitated disturbance areas.

Fauna active management protocols

If active fauna management is required as a result of the pre-clearing inspections, a qualified ecologist or spotter/catcher will be present to supervise clearing activities and manage any impacts and /or relocation of fauna. For example, the identification of tree hollows that may contain roosts, nests or dens, or the presence of resident fauna including actively nesting birds or mammals.

In any area to be cleared, non-habitat vegetation is to be cleared first. Any fauna habitat (or resident fauna including actively nesting birds or suspected active microbat roosts) demarcated during the pre-clearing procedure is then to be left standing overnight to encourage the self-relocation of fauna.. The fauna habitat will then be cleared in accordance with the following sections.

Hollow dependent species (including microbats)

Habitat trees with hollows that may contain roost, nest or dens, or suspected active microbat roosts will be managed with the following actions, where it is deemed safe:

- Shaking the tree with machinery prior to clearing to encourage resident fauna to move to an alternative site;
- Soft pushing the tree to the ground in order to reduce the likelihood of disturbance to the habitat feature/roost/resident fauna present;
- Preferentially positioning the tree on the ground so the entrance to the hollow faces upwards (i.e. so fauna are able to exit);
- Inspecting the felled tree to confirm whether fauna have exited the tree; and
- If there are fauna remaining inside the tree which have not exited, leaving the felled tree overnight to allow any remaining fauna time to exit, which will be confirmed by reinspection on the following day.

Arboreal mammals

Where habitat trees are present, and the presence of arboreal mammals is suspected or known, they will be managed with the following actions, where safe:

- Shaking the tree with machinery to be used during clearing activities to encourage the animal to move to an alternative location;
- Soft pushing the tree to the ground in order to reduce the likelihood of disturbance to the habitat feature/animal present;
- Inspection of the felled tree to confirm that the mammal has relocated from the habitat feature; and
- Where the mammal is still present, leave the felled tree overnight to encourage the animal to relocate, which will be confirmed by reinspection on the following day.

Nesting birds

The tree is to be inspected from ground level for nests immediately prior to clearing to ensure that the nest is not active. If the nest is not active, the tree can be cleared.

Where a nest is active, the birds present (generally fledglings) will be collected where safe, and taken to a wildlife carer, prior to later release. The nest will be removed from the tree and an inspection undertaken to confirm the nesting activity hasn't recommenced. If nesting has recommenced, then the nest will be removed again and the tree then cleared, before any nest can be established

Unexpected threatened species finds

- If previously unrecorded threatened flora or fauna are identified during pre-clearing surveys or clearing activities, a qualified ecologist will be engaged to determine the significance of impacts and provide advice on how the site is to be protected and managed including progression of additional consultation and approval requirements from BCS or other agencies.
- Works in the areas where impacts are identified will not be undertaken until authorisation to proceed is provided by the relevant authority.

3.3 Minimising loss of key fauna habitats

Key fauna habitat features which may be impacted by the Project are described in Table 7, along with measures to be undertaken to minimise impacts.

Table 7: Fauna habitat within the Development Corridor and impact minimisation measures

Species type	Habitat type	Impact Minimisation Measures
Tree hollow-dependent species	HBTs Stags Fallen logs with hollows	Micro-siting WTGs and associated infrastructure away from HBTs where possible. Implementing the pre-clearing inspections to determine if roosts, nests or dens are visible in any hollow-bearing trees (refer Section 3.2.5). HBTs requiring removal and cleared larger woody debris will be relocated adjacent to the construction impact area (subject to landowner agreement) into adjacent habitat or placed on rehabilitated disturbance areas.

Species type	Habitat type	Impact Minimisation Measures
Arboreal mammals, including Koala	Trees	<p>Development and implementation of vegetation pre-clearing procedure aimed at identifying resident arboreal mammals (refer Section 3.2.5).</p> <p>Development and implementation of vegetation clearing procedure, including clearing non-habitat vegetation first, shaking trees to allow fauna to relocate before felling, and active management procedures (Section 3.2.5) to ensure any remaining resident fauna from felled trees are relocated where possible.</p>
Nesting/breeding birds	Nests in trees	<p>Development and implementation of vegetation pre-clearing procedure aimed at identifying nest trees (refer Section 3.2.5).</p> <p>Development and implementation of active management procedures (Section 3.2.5) to ensure nests from felled trees are relocated where possible.</p>
Microbats	HBTs Disused mine adits	<p>Impacts to be avoided (disused mine adits excluded from the Indicative and Final Development Footprint) and minimised (HBTs) in detailed design.</p> <p>Development and implementation of vegetation clearing procedure, including clearing non-habitat vegetation first, shaking trees to allow fauna to relocate before felling, and active management procedures (Section 3.2.4) to ensure any remaining resident fauna from felled trees are relocated where possible.</p>
Reptiles	Granite rock Tussocks grasses	<p>Rock disturbance will be limited to the Final Development Footprint.</p> <p>Granite rocks, that currently provides suitable habitat for reptiles, that are removed from the construction area will be relocated adjacent to the construction impact area where feasible and subject to landowner agreement.</p> <p>Grass tussock disturbance will be limited to the Final Development Footprint and minimised where possible.</p>
Water birds	Farm dams	<p>Impacts to small dams will be avoided by the layout where possible.</p> <p>Where avoidance is not possible, dams will be visually checked for waterbirds and if non present, drained with the water used elsewhere onsite. Draining of dams will follow a dam-dewatering process to relocate aquatic fauna such as turtles, eels and fish.</p>
Amphibians	Ephemeral drainage lines	<p>Ephemeral drainage lines will be avoided by the layout wherever possible and impacts where possible will be limited to crossings.</p> <p>Crossings will be designed to minimise erosion and impedance of flows (in accordance with the Project EMS and erosion and sediment control procedures) and constructed in accordance with the <i>Water Guidelines for Controlled Activities on Waterfront Land (2012)</i>, or its latest version and <i>Why Do Fish Need to Cross the Road? Fish Passage Requirements for Waterway Crossings (2004)</i>, or its latest version.</p> <p>Disturbance activities to be undertaken during dry periods where possible.</p>

3.4 Minimising loss of tree hollows

It is a requirement of condition B20(b) that the impacts of the development on HBTs are minimised. To implement this requirement it is intended that the development will undertake the following actions:

- where WTGs, roads and ancillary infrastructure occur in areas where hollow bearing trees have been identified or likely to occur, an overall assessment will be undertaken to assess the general layout and design to identify opportunities where hollow bearing tree loss could be minimised;
- undertaking hollow bearing tree surveys at all WTG location (surveying all trees within a 150m radius of the approved WTG location) so that the blade tip is at least 50 metres from the canopy of existing hollow bearing trees (refer section 3.2.2 for methodology);
- restrict storage and access by plant and vehicles to the dripline of hollow bearing trees;
- siting infrastructure and undertaking temporary disturbance (i.e. compound, laydown areas and temporary access tracks) in areas that are already cleared or where vegetation is sparse, for example, existing tracks and disturbed areas;
- identifying and marking hollow bearing trees that occur within 5m of the construction impact area for their protection;
- where feasible and reasonable adapt construction methodologies at particular locations to protect hollow bearing trees that would have otherwise been impacted by construction activities; and
- during operations, if it is identified that a tree needs to be removed a hollow bearing tree survey will be undertaken and an assessment of reasonable and feasible undertaken.

3.5 Minimising impacts on fauna

Impact minimisation to fauna is described in the pre-clearing and vegetation clearing procedures detailed in Section 3.2.5, and include:

- Identifying and managing likely fauna presence via the pre-clearing procedure; and
- Active management during clearing.

Not specific to any fauna species or group, construction procedures will include measures to further minimise direct and indirect impacts to fauna including:

- Preparation (by the EPC Contractor) of a fauna rescue protocol that includes notification of local wildlife carers and a veterinarian should they be required during clearing;
- Temporary construction features such as trenches, and pits will be managed to minimise ingress of fauna, and allow egress of fauna (e.g. provision of earthen ramps). Open trenches will be checked twice daily by the EPC Contractor;
- All external lighting associated with the development uses best management practice for bat deterrence; and
- Vehicle speed limits within construction areas will be reduced to minimise fauna strike risk. Vehicle use will be restricted to the Development Corridor and to areas which are to be used for access tracks or infrastructure wherever possible.

3.6 Minimising potential indirect impacts

Indirect impacts to threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species, 'at risk' species, and native species may occur through the Project construction and operation. Potential indirect impacts and impact minimisation measures are detailed below in Table 8.

Table 8: Potential indirect impacts to biodiversity and impact mitigation measures

Potential Indirect impact	Impact Minimisation Measures
Sedimentation and runoff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that wind turbine pads, ancillary infrastructure, access roads and any other land disturbances have appropriate drainage and erosion and sediment controls designed, installed, and maintained in accordance with Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction Volume 2C Unsealed Roads (DECC, 2008), or their latest versions. • Regular inspection and maintenance of erosion and sediment controls will be undertaken. • Prior to commencing construction, the EPC Contractor will prepare a detailed erosion and sediment control plan addressing the above requirement.
Noise, dust, or light spill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction works will be restricted to daytime hours where possible to minimise the risk of light spill to surrounding areas. • Dust suppression methods, including the use of water carts, will be utilised on unsealed roads and disturbed areas.
Inadvertent impacts to adjacent vegetation or habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vegetation clearing protocols identified above in Section 3.2.5 will be implemented to clearly delineate vegetation to be cleared for the Project as per the detailed design. • All Site staff and contractors will undergo a site specific induction which will communicate clearing limits.
Feral pest, weed or pathogen encroachment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weed and feral pest control measures are detailed below in Section 3.11.

3.7 Rehabilitation and revegetation

Rehabilitation and / or revegetation will be undertaken progressively in all temporary impact areas, that is, those areas that are not required to be maintained for the operational phase of the Project. This will aim to ensure that they are safe, stable, and non-polluting and reduce the total area exposed at any time in accordance with the Development Consent, including the re-creation of habitat for fauna.

With consideration to the future intended land uses, and the requirements for safe, stable, and non-polluting landscapes, existing vegetation communities in the Development Corridor will be used to inform the revegetation. Importantly, regeneration and restoration of disturbed areas will include the re-spreading of reserved topsoil containing a seed bank stock and propagules associated with the pre-disturbance vegetation community. Rehabilitation of internal access roads that are not required following construction will be undertaken.

Prior to the commencement of rehabilitation activities, and once the wind farm detailed design is progressed and disturbance areas identified, the EPC Contractor will prepare a Rehabilitation Management Program to the satisfaction of the Proponent. The Program will be developed to ensure targets and species selection are appropriate in temporary impact areas where CEEC and threatened species habitat have been impacted. Note: Rehabilitation Program cannot be provided within this BMP as it is dependent on the specific construction methodology to be implemented by the EPC Contractor, and this is not yet established.

The Rehabilitation Management Program will include as a minimum:

- Identification of the pre-existing conditions/ land uses prior to construction;
- A program for the progressive rehabilitation activities in all disturbed areas (commencement and any follow up), which would be progressively updated during construction as areas become available for rehabilitation;
- Proposed rehabilitation methods (i.e. replacement of topsoil containing a seed bank, topsoil preparation, cover crop, seeding, mulching, watering regime etc). Note: this detail cannot be provided within this BMP as it is dependent on the specific construction methodology to be implemented by the EPC Contractor, and this is not yet established;

- A diagram showing the location of areas to be rehabilitated, vegetation communities to be established and species composition based on the detailed design;
- Development of plant species mixes taking into consideration the pre-existing land use and condition, future land uses, and landowner requirements. Seed mixes will include an initial cover crop to stabilise the soil;
- Where rehabilitation works are to occur close to threatened communities or species habitat, revegetation will be with species native to the mapped communities where possible;
- Proposed physical controls/works to ensure long-term stabilisation of rehabilitated areas, including:
 - controls required to ensure stability of slopes;
 - provision of appropriate drainage infrastructure/ controls to prevent scouring or ponding;
 - measures to address scouring/ erosion occurrences.
- Details of proposed weed control (hand removal, spot spraying, broad application of herbicide); and
- Details of rehabilitation monitoring required, including performance criteria, triggers for corrective action, corrective actions.

The EPC Contractor will be responsible for implementing the Rehabilitation Management Program under the supervision of the Proponent, as outlined in section 3.7. Rehabilitation will be monitored by the EPC Contractor in accordance with Section 4. The Proponent will monitor the effectiveness of the plan and report to the Proponent and Independent Environmental Auditor on its performance.

All rehabilitation must comply with Condition B47 of SSD 6687.

3.8 Protection outside the approved disturbance area

Section 3.2 details a range of measures that will be implemented to manage vegetation clearing activities and protect biodiversity outside of the approved disturbance areas.

Section 3.2.3 identifies the detailed design process that will be implemented to establish the Final Disturbance Footprint.

Section 3.2.4 describes how clearance boundaries will be established and identified, including being digitally captured and made available using GIS software and in a hard copy map to inform correct vegetation clearing and post-construction activities. This data identifies the clearance boundaries and demarcation of the Final Development Footprint to ensure work remains within the footprint.

Section 3.2.5 provides a detailed description of the procedures and protocols that will be implemented prior to and during the vegetation clearing works, to ensure compliance with vegetation clearing boundaries/ limits.

Additionally, the EPC Contractor will be responsible for ensuring the following mitigation measures are implemented to protect native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside of the approved disturbance area:

- Where practicable, Project vehicles are to remain within the extent of the earthworks designed specifically for the Project to minimise vegetation disturbance;
- Laydown or temporary disturbance areas will be located in already disturbed areas where practicable and feasible to minimise clearing of native vegetation and habitat;
- To minimise the spread of weeds through the Project Site in compliance with Section 3.11;
- No vegetation clearing is undertaken outside the Development Corridor; and
- To ensure the identification of clearance boundaries and the demarcation of the Final Development Footprint where it is within close proximity to vegetation clearing and construction activities in accordance with Section 3.2.

3.9 Salvage of resources

During disturbance activities including vegetation and earthworks, where practicable, salvage of resources will be undertaken to enhance habitat in adjacent areas, or to be re-used in rehabilitation activities. This will typically include trees and stags with hollows, large fallen logs and woody debris, as well as topsoil and mulch. For example, HBTs requiring removal and cleared larger woody debris will be relocated adjacent to the construction impact area (subject to landowner agreement) into adjacent habitat or placed on rehabilitated disturbance areas.

Where soil is cleared for excavations or cuttings, it will be used for fill or habitat enhancement activities within the Project Site. Dust suppression measures such as the use of water carts/sprays will be used to mitigate dust impacts to adjacent vegetated areas.

Vegetation that has been cleared that does not contain habitat features may be placed in areas of exotic vegetation, mulched, or removed from the Site (pending negotiation with the relevant landowner).

3.10 Collection and propagation of seeds

The need for collection and propagation of seeds is not anticipated to be required. If a requirement for seed collection and propagation is identified, seed collection and propagation for native species will be carried out by a suitably qualified provider with appropriate experience and training in seed collection, data recording, seed storage and propagation.

3.11 Control weeds and feral pests

Priority weed species present within the Project Site (see [Section 2.2.3](#)) have the potential to impede the success of surrounding agriculture and remnant native vegetation as well as vegetation regeneration and rehabilitation activities in the Final Development Footprint. Weed management activities will be undertaken in disturbed areas in a manner that will ensure adjacent agricultural land and native vegetation is not significantly impacted. Priority weeds will be proactively managed in the Final Development Footprint to avoid the spread of existing weeds and to manage any incursions which arise throughout construction and operation of the Project.

Weed management measures to be implemented at the project include:

- Prior to the commencement of construction, the EPC Contractor shall engage a suitably qualified ecologist/agronomist/weeds specialist to undertake a pre-construction weed dilapidation survey assessment across each work area, prior to ground disturbance.
- A weed dilapidation survey report shall be prepared and will include weed mapping for the Site and information profiles for weed species that are identified during the dilapidation survey, or otherwise known to occur on the project Site. Each weed profile must include the following information at minimum:
 - Description of the weed, growing cycles, habit, environmental impacts etc.
 - Example photograph(s) of the weed.
 - Biosecurity duty relevant to the weed, including any specific listing status under the Regional Strategic Weed Management Strategy. The weeds detailed in Table 4 will be managed in alignment with their relevant state weed management plan.
 - Details of other listing status (e.g. Weed of National Significance, High Threat Weed, etc).
 - Methods to minimise risk of establishment or spread of the weed.
 - Control methods for the weed required to demonstrate compliance with the Biosecurity Duty.
- Soil will be handled and managed to reduce the risk of weeds spreading across the Site, including:
 - Imported soil and rubble to be certified as free of weeds and weed seeds.

- Measures to minimise the transport of weed species to and from the Final Development Footprint (mitigations may include restrictions on vehicle access, wash-down of vehicles, machinery, and boots).
- Vehicle/ plant / machinery onboarding process will include an inspection for weed and weed seed – weed contaminated equipment will not be permitted entry to the Site.
- The regular environmental inspection regime will include regular inspections of work areas and soil stockpiles identifying weeds present and implementing required weed management actions.
- Implementation of weed management actions which may include mechanical removal, slashing, application of approved herbicides and biological control, as applicable to the weed being treated.
- Control and management of weeds identified in work areas in accordance with the Central Tablelands and Central Regional West Weed Management Plans 2023-2027 (Local Land Services, 2022). All work will be completed in accordance with the NSW *Pesticides Act 1999*.
- Regional or State Priority listed weeds will be managed and controlled to achieve complete removal from the Final Development Footprint.
- All construction staff and sub-contractors to be educated on priority weeds present at the Project Site and on ways to prevent spread.
- Where practicable and in consultation with host landowners manage stock access during periods of revegetation.
- Monitoring to assess the effectiveness of the weed management measures implemented and the requirement for any additional weed control activities, including where soil from stockpiles with known weed infestations is respread over previously clean areas.

Weed control activities will be documented by the EPC Contractor, with the following information being recorded:

- The date, time and location of areas that have undergone weed control activities;
- Methods used for weed control including where used, the types of chemicals used;
- Issues encountered; and
- Recommended frequency and methods for follow-up weed control.

Where it has been identified that weed control activities have not been effective, the method of control implemented will be reviewed prior to further control activities occurring. Refer also to Table 10 for further details of performance criteria, triggers, and response actions.

A number of introduced vertebrate pest species (such as foxes, pigs, hares and rabbits) are common to the region and have the potential to both compete with native species and cause considerable damage to land and vegetation. Contamination and waste management will be managed in accordance with the EPC Contractors CEMP and the Project EMS. This will identify the waste management measures to be implemented to reduce opportunities for scavenging for animals such as foxes, wild dogs, and feral cats.

The Project will cooperate with landowners to facilitate existing and ongoing vertebrate pest control programs being undertaken on freehold land in the Project Site. Any vertebrate pest control activities undertaken will be done in accordance with the requirements of the Local Land Services. It is understood that rabbit populations occur in the area and that they may pose a risk to blade strike by wedge-tailed eagles.

In this instance specific requirements for the monitoring of rabbits or other pests (e.g. mice) will be developed and documented within the Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan (BBAMP). This is to ensure that the associated risk to species is appropriately assessed and documented in the appropriate location of the BBAMP together with the suite of other management measures for mitigating risks to bird and bat strike. Suitable management programs will be developed and implemented as necessary. Refer to the BBAMP for this and other targeted management measure associated with minimising bird and bat strike.

The EPC Contractor will develop and implement a Biosecurity Management Plan, consistent with the requirements of this BMP and the EMS.

3.12 Controlling erosion

Prior to the commencement of construction, the EPC Contractor will prepare an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP). The ESCP will be certified by a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC). The ESCP must identify all erosion and sediment control risk and describe how these will be addressed during construction.

The ESCP will identify measures to ensure that wind turbine pads, ancillary infrastructure, access roads and any other land disturbances have appropriate drainage and erosion and sediment controls designed, installed, and maintained in accordance with Managing Urban Stormwater – Soils and Construction Volume 2C Unsealed Roads (DECC, 2008), or their latest versions.

Regular inspection, monitoring and maintenance of erosion and sediment controls will be undertaken to meet the requirements of the ESCP.

Erosion and sediment controls will be implemented, monitored, and maintained in accordance with the ESCP and to meet the requirements of Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom, 2004).

3.13 Bushfire management

The Project will be designed to provide asset protection in accordance with the Rural Fire Services (RFS) *Planning for Bushfire Protection 2006*, including the maintenance of a 10 m Asset Protection Zone around each WTG. The EPC Contractor will ensure the Site is suitably equipped to respond to any fires onsite and if required, assist the RFS and emergency services as much as possible if there is a fire in the vicinity of the Project Site.

A separate Emergency Plan will be prepared in accordance with Condition B42 and details fire risks, hazards and detailed measures to identify bushfire danger periods, bushfire prone land and assess the fire history of the Project Site and surrounding land. In identifying the possible risks including, but not limited to combustible materials, hot works and, electrical faults, preventative controls and emergency procedures have been developed to reduce the chances of human-induced bushfire.

The controls and procedures within the plan are summarised below:

- General fire prevention – personnel should be aware and help to manage any poor safety practices that could cause bushfires including unnecessary accumulation of rubbish, storage of flammable liquids, obstruction of firefighting equipment and emergency exits, fire doors should be kept shut except during use, and the reporting of accidental discharge or faulty extinguishers to the Chief Warden.
- Procedures for fire on or near Site – raising the alarm, deciding on action, checking the type of equipment for the fire and remaining safe during the emergency. All personnel are aware of the emergency, notifying Wardens and contact RFS via 000 prior to any decision to attend to the fire.
- Total Fire Ban Days – some operations may be classed as prohibited activities during this time, including lighting, maintaining or using a fire in the open or carrying out activities in the open with the potential for a fire to develop.
- Fire suppression equipment, access and water – firefighting equipment will be maintained in the main Project office and emergency vehicles used in the event of a fire emergency. Water storage will be made available on the Site consistent with Condition B41 of the Development Consent and PBP 2019. Multiple access points for emergency vehicles are identified and mapped which will provide safe, all-weather access for firefighting vehicles to access key infrastructure.
- Storage and maintenance of flammable materials – all flammable and hazardous materials will be appropriately stored on Site to the specifications of the manufacturers' requirements and a hazardous chemical register maintained.
- Asset Protection Zones (APZ) – these areas are managed and maintained to reduce the likelihood of a bushfire spreading into the facility.

3.14 Biodiversity offsetting

Updated baseline mapping

The Proponent has updated the baseline mapping of vegetation and key habitat within the development corridor, in accordance with Condition B21a. Planning Secretary approval of the updated baseline mapping was provided on 23 September 2021.

Calculation of biodiversity offset credit liabilities

At the time of preparing the Biodiversity Management Plan, the calculation of biodiversity offset credit liabilities had not yet been completed to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary.

Prior to the commencement of construction, the proponent will calculate the biodiversity offset credit liabilities for the development in accordance with the requirements of Condition B21b, and in consultation with BCS and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This will inform the retirement of credits in accordance with Condition B22 (refer below).

Retirement of Biodiversity Credits

At the time of preparing the Biodiversity Management Plan, the Biodiversity Credits had not yet been retired.

Prior to the commencement of construction, the Proponent will retire biodiversity offset credits in accordance with Condition B22. The retirement of the credits will be carried out in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects, and will be achieved by:

- a. acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016;
or
- b. making payments into an offset fund that has been established by the NSW Government.

4 Monitoring and reporting

Monitoring and reporting during the construction phase of the Project is required to ensure compliance with the Development Consent and inform adaptive management, including:

- vegetation clearing limits;
- minimisation of impacts to HBTs;
- implementation of vegetation clearing procedures;
- active fauna management;
- progressive rehabilitation;
- weed infestations and management; and
- incidents and non-conformances.

Monitoring and reporting requirements have been established for the management measures prescribed by this BMP. Further detail is provided in the sections below, with the monitoring schedule tabled in Section 4 and Table 9.

4.1 Cumulative vegetation clearing and disturbance register

This section provides a 'protocol' for the progressive tracking and recording of actual vegetation clearing and disturbance throughout construction.

A Vegetation Clearing and Disturbance Register will be prepared and progressively updated by the EPC Contractor, to progressively track actual and forecasted vegetation clearing throughout construction. The Clearing and Disturbance Register will ensure that actual and planned clearing is kept to within the approved clearing limits, and that it does not exceed the final biodiversity offset clearing calculations that will be approved and retired for each Plant Community Type (PCT) prior to commencement of construction, as required by Condition B21(b) (refer Section 3.14).

An updated Vegetation Clearing and Disturbance Register will be prepared and provided to the Proponent at least fortnightly.

The preparation and progressive update of the Clearing and Disturbance Register will be informed by:

- a desktop/GIS calculation of the forecasted impacts of the detailed design against the total approved offset area for each vegetation PCT / threatened species habitat;
- ongoing desktop/GIS review of each planned work area against the total approved offset area for each vegetation PCT / threatened species habitat;
- incorporation of any design changes from micro-siting (see Section 3.2.3 above); and
- actual cumulative vegetation clearing and disturbance impacts, derived from regular, progressive survey of clearing extents.

4.2 Environmental inspections

During construction, a daily inspection of each work area will be carried out to:

- ensure that demarcated areas for exclusion of clearing have not been disturbed;
- ensure any HBTs marked for retention have not been disturbed;
- ensure that habitat resources to be salvaged have been identified and the requirement for salvage communicated to the clearing contractor;

- daily inspection of any open trenches for trapped fauna; and
- inspection of works areas for weed incursion or spread.

During construction, a weekly environmental inspection will be undertaken by the EPC Contractor, and will incorporate a range of environmental inspection criteria to document compliance with, and effectiveness of, the various mitigation measures and controls specified within this EMS and this BMP. Refer to Table 9 for details of the monitoring inspections required under this plan.

A weekly Environmental Inspection Report will be prepared by the EPC Contractor to provide confirmation that the daily and weekly inspections have been completed.

In addition, the following inspections will be undertaken weekly or more frequently as required:

- inspection of soil stockpiles, sediment and erosion control structures used during construction activities;
- inspection of waste management;
- review of records of feral animal sightings; and
- inspection of hazardous material storage controls (to be defined in the EPC Contractors Contamination and Waste Management Plan).

More frequent inspections may be required, for example, immediately after heavy rainfall (i.e. >20mm in 24 hrs).

Records of any non-conformances and associated actions will be recorded (see sections below for detail).

4.3 Preliminary rehabilitation monitoring

All rehabilitated areas will be monitored on a routine basis by the EPC Contractor during the construction phase as determined by the Rehabilitation Management Program (see Section 3.7), with a long term monitoring schedule to be determined post-construction.

Rehabilitation monitoring will be prescribed by the Rehabilitation Management Plan, which will include performance criteria, management triggers for corrective actions and corrective actions. At a minimum, routine rehabilitation monitoring will include an assessment of:

- drainage conditions (i.e. no ponding or scouring);
- weeds;
- areas of instability that require stabilisation or remediation;
- signs of erosion;
- whether revegetated areas are growing as expected; and
- requirements for follow up rehabilitation activities including any weed control, reseeding, vertebrate pest control and watering as required.

A photographic images register will be utilised to record groundcover conditions at the commencement of rehabilitation to monitor progress over time.

4.4 Biodiversity monitoring and reporting schedule

A schedule of the monitoring and associated reporting established for each biodiversity management measure is detailed below in Table 9.

Performance Criteria have been established for each biodiversity management measure. The Trigger Action Response Plan provided in Table 10 identifies the triggers and responses relating to each performance criteria.

Table 9: Biodiversity Monitoring and Reporting requirements, and performance criteria

BMP reference	Impact minimisation measure	Monitoring method / type	Timing/ frequency	Reporting output	Responsibility	Performance criteria/ measure of success
Minimising native vegetation disturbance Section 3.2	Detailed design to quantify overall predicted impacts to vegetation Section 3.2.3	Desktop / GIS review of detailed design against native vegetation and threatened species habitat mapping to calculate area of clearing and ensure no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28.73 ha of BC Act listed White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Woodland CEEC 13.88 ha of EPBC Act listed White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Dreived Native Grass is cleared for the development	With each design change.	Detailed design with impact calculations.	EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent.	Design impact calculations remain below the limits specified in the approval documentation.
		Desktop / GIS review of each new work area and completed area of clearing against native vegetation and threatened species habitat mapping to calculate area of clearing.	Prior to and on completion of each clearing event.	Cumulative vegetation clearing register.	EPC Contractor	Cumulative area cleared remains below approved limits and tracking as expected.
	Micro-siting of infrastructure Section 3.2.2	Desktop review of 3D model of topography, tree height and cut and fill at each WTG location to calculate the distance between the tree canopy of each HBT and the tip of the WTG blade.	With each micro-siting event.	Micro-siting reports, mapping.	Proponent in consultation with the EPC contractor	Micro-sited locations comply with Condition A7: the revised location of the blade of a wind turbine is at least 50 metres from the canopy of existing hollow bearing trees; or where the proposed location of the blade of a wind turbine is already within 50 metres of the canopy of existing hollow-bearing trees, the revised location is not any closer to the existing hollow-bearing tree.
	Identification of clearance boundaries Section 3.2.4	Vegetation Disturbance Permit Pre-clearing procedure Routine environmental inspections	Prior to commencement of clearing at each new work area. Daily during active clearing. At completion of clearing.	Completed Vegetation Disturbance Permit. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Vegetation clearing remains within the established clearance boundaries per the Permit. HBTs marked for retention have not been disturbed.
	Pre-clearing procedure Section 3.2.5	Vegetation Disturbance Permit Pre-clearing procedure Routine environmental inspections	Prior to commencement of clearing at each new work area.	Pre-clearing inspection report/ records.	EPC Contractor	Items identified in the pre-clearing survey have appropriate management planning for vegetation clearing and are communicated effectively to relevant personnel.
	Vegetation clearing procedure Section 3.2.5	Vegetation Disturbance Permit Routine environmental inspections	Throughout clearing activities.	Completed Vegetation Disturbance Permit. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Actions identified in the pre-clearing report have been completed. Vegetation is cleared in accordance with the procedure.
	Fauna active management protocols Section 3.2.5	Vegetation Disturbance Permit Routine environmental inspections	Throughout clearing activities.	Completed Vegetation Disturbance Permit. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Minimal impact to fauna as a result of clearing activities.
	Unexpected threatened species finds Section 3.2.5	Vegetation Disturbance Permit	Throughout clearing activities.	Completed Vegetation Disturbance Permit. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent	Unexpected threatened species finds are not impacted without appropriate approvals.
Minimising loss of key fauna habitat, including tree hollows Section 3.3 & Section 3.4	As per minimising native vegetation disturbance measures above.					
	Relocation of granite rock habitat that provide suitable habitat to reptiles, in accordance with Table 7.	Vegetation Disturbance Permit Routine environmental inspections	Throughout clearing activities.	Completed Vegetation Disturbance Permit. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Disturbance to granite rock habitat is avoided/minimised.

BMP reference	Impact minimisation measure	Monitoring method / type	Timing/ frequency	Reporting output	Responsibility	Performance criteria/ measure of success
	Management of impacts to farm dams in accordance with Table 7.	Vegetation Disturbance Permit Pre-clearing procedure Routine environmental inspections	As required throughout clearing activities.	Completed Vegetation Disturbance Permit. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Impacts to aquatic fauna are minimised and managed appropriately.
Minimising impacts on fauna Section 3.5	As per minimising native vegetation disturbance measures above.					
	Trenches/ pits shall be managed to minimise ingress of fauna, and allow egress of fauna from the trench/ pit.	Routine environmental inspections Visual inspection of trench / pit	Twice daily whilst excavation remains open.	Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Fauna are not trapped in trenches.
	Implement a fauna rescue protocol.	Monitoring implementation of correct fauna rescue protocols by appropriate personnel.	During scheduled audits. Weekly during environmental inspections	Audit reports. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Where required, fauna rescues are conducted by the appropriate person and in a timely manner to ensure the fauna receives suitable care and treatment.
	Vehicle speed limits within construction areas will be reduced to minimise fauna strike risk.	Visual monitoring by all personnel.	Daily	Reporting of non-conformances only.	EPC Contractor	Fauna vehicle strikes do not occur.
Minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened fauna and flora species, migratory species and ‘at-risk’ species Section 3.6	As per ‘minimising native vegetation disturbance’ above. As per ‘Controlling erosion’ below. As per ‘Controlling weeds and feral pests’ below.					
	Construction works are restricted to daytime hours where possible to minimise the risk of light spill to surrounding areas to minimise potential indirect impacts of light spill to threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and ‘at risk’ species.	Monitoring of adherence to standard hours and minimisation of light spill where lighting is required.	Weekly during environmental inspections	Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Use of artificial lighting outside of daylight hours is avoided.
	Dust suppression methods, including the use of water carts, will be utilised on unsealed roads and disturbed areas to minimise potential indirect impacts of dust to threatened flora and fauna species, migratory species and ‘at risk’ species.	Visual monitoring of dust suppression use and effectiveness.	Weekly during environmental inspections	Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Dust suppression measures are implemented and no dust complaints are received.
Rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas Section 3.7	Implementation of a tailored Rehabilitation Management Program, which addresses the management measures identified in Section 3.7 of this BMP (to be prepared by the EPC Contractor prior to the commencement of rehabilitation).	Routine inspections of rehabilitated areas to monitor for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drainage conditions (i.e. no ponding or scouring); • weeds; • areas of instability that require stabilisation or remediation; • signs of erosion; • whether revegetated areas are growing as expected; and • requirements for follow up rehabilitation activities including any weed control, reseeding, vertebrate pest control and watering as required. 	Weekly during active works. Monthly until rehabilitated areas have achieved a minimum coverage/ stabilisation criteria (to be set in the Rehabilitation Management Program).	Weekly environmental inspection reports. Rehabilitation monitoring reporting to be set in the Rehabilitation Management Program.	EPC Contractor	Rehabilitation Management Program is prepared prior to commencement of rehabilitation. Performance/completion criteria to be set in the Rehabilitation Management Program.

BMP reference	Impact minimisation measure	Monitoring method / type	Timing/ frequency	Reporting output	Responsibility	Performance criteria/ measure of success
		A photographic images register will be utilised to record groundcover conditions at the commencement of rehabilitation to monitor progress over time.				
Protecting native vegetation and key fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance area Section 3.8	As per minimising vegetation disturbance measures above					
	Project vehicles to remain within the Final Development Footprint	Induction records Routine environmental inspections	Weekly during environmental inspections	Induction records. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor.	Vegetation and habitat outside of the Final Development Footprint remains intact.
	Laydown and temporary disturbance areas in already disturbed areas where practicable and feasible.	Induction records Detailed design Routine environmental inspections	Weekly.	Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Vegetation and habitat outside of the Final Development Footprint remains intact.
Maximising salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site Section 3.9	During disturbance activities including vegetation and earthworks, salvage of resources may be undertaken to enhance habitat in adjacent areas, or to be re-used in rehabilitation activities.	Monitoring for salvageable resources during active vegetation clearing.	Prior to commencement of clearing at each new work area. Daily during active clearing. At completion of clearing.	Completed Vegetation Disturbance Permit. Pre-clearing inspection report/records Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Salvage of resources has occurred.
	Where soil is cleared for excavations or cuttings, it will be used for fill or habitat enhancement activities within the Project Site.	Soil stockpiles will be monitored to ensure soil resources are stabilised until such time as they can be reused.	Weekly environmental inspections.	Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Soil stockpiles remain stable. Adjacent areas are not visibly impacted or degraded due to dust impacts.
Collecting and propagating seed (where relevant) Section 3.10	Where relevant, seed collection and propagation for native species will be carried out by a suitably qualified provider with appropriate experience and training in seed collection, data recording, seed storage and propagation.	Where relevant, specific monitoring objectives and methods will be developed with input from a suitably qualified provider.				
Controlling weeds and feral pests Section 3.11	Whole-of-site weed dilapidation surveys will be undertaken by a suitably qualified contractor.	Surveys will be undertaken across the entire Development Footprint with the method to be developed by the contractor, which may include a combination of plot/site-based surveys and broadscale assessments.	Pre-construction to establish a baseline. Annually during construction. Future monitoring to be determined through review of the program and results.	Weed dilapidation survey reports to be produced following the completion of each survey.	EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent.	Priority weed spread and/or incursion does not occur as a result of the Project.
	Soil disturbance will be managed to minimise the spread of weeds.	Visual inspections of active works areas and soil stockpiles.	Weekly environmental inspections.	Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Priority weed spread and/or incursion does not occur as a result of the Project.
	Imported soil/rubble must be certified as weed free.	Certification to be sighted. Visual monitoring during weekly environmental inspection of all areas where imported soil/rubble has been spread.	With each delivery of imported soil. Weekly environmental inspections.	A record of imported soil/rubble is to be maintained with certifications records checked. Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Weed incursion does not occur where imported soil/rubble has been spread.

BMP reference	Impact minimisation measure	Monitoring method / type	Timing/ frequency	Reporting output	Responsibility	Performance criteria/ measure of success
	Incoming plant, vehicles and equipment are weed seed free.	Visual inspection of incoming plant, vehicles and equipment prior to Site entry.	Prior to Site entry.	A record of incoming plant, vehicles and equipment is maintained with confirmation of inspection recorded.	EPC Contractor	Weed spread and/or incursion does not occur as a result of the Project
	Implementation of weed management actions where weed incursion or spread is identified.	Visual monitoring of areas subject to any weed management actions to monitor success.	Weekly environmental inspections. Monthly inspections of treated areas which are not within active works areas.	Weekly environmental inspection reports. Weed control records.	EPC Contractor	Weed spread and/or incursion does not occur where weed management actions have been implemented.
	Waste is managed to reduce opportunities for scavenging pest animals.	Visual monitoring of adequate waste management in accordance with the EPC Contractors CEMP and Project EMS.	Weekly during environmental inspections.	Weekly environmental inspection report.	EPC Contractor	Wastes are being managed appropriately in accordance with the EPC Contractors CEMP and Project EMS and there are no signs of feral pests scavenging in and around areas such as compounds and satellite offices.
	Regular consultation with landowners will be undertaken regarding feral pest activities. All sightings of feral pests will be reported to the EPC contractor.	Landowner consultation. Review of feral pest sighting records.	In accordance with the Project consultation plan. Weekly during environmental inspections.	Weekly environmental inspection report.	EPC Contractor	The project does not impede feral pest control activities undertaken by the landowner and feral pest numbers do not increase as a result of the project.
Controlling erosion Section 3.12	Develop and implement an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, in accordance with the requirements of Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction (Landcom, 2004).	Visual monitoring of ESCP implementation during environmental inspections and ESCP effectiveness during post-rainfall inspections.	Weekly environmental inspections. Immediately following rainfall/high wind.	Weekly environmental inspection reports.	EPC Contractor	Erosion is controlled and does not lead to impacts to biodiversity values. Detailed Management actions to be prescribed by the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.
Bushfire management Section 3.13	A standalone Emergency Plan is to be prepared for the Project which will include an assessment of risk, mitigations, and management actions.	Monitoring will be in accordance with the Emergency Plan and will include regular inspections of hazards and emergency response equipment.	In accordance with the Emergency Plan.	In accordance with the Emergency Plan.	In accordance with the Emergency Plan.	Bushfire or grassfires do not occur as a result of the Project. Detailed Management actions to be prescribed by the Emergency Plan.

4.5 Management triggers and corrective actions

The biodiversity monitoring program is designed to measure the effectiveness of management actions against the key performance criteria for each requirement so the BMP. Where the performance criteria is not met, triggers have been identified to determine when corrective actions are to be implemented. Table 10 below details the triggers and corrective actions to be implemented, with further detail on incident reporting and non-conformance provided in the sections below.

Table 10: Performance criteria - Trigger Action Response Plan

BMP source	reference	Performance Criteria	Trigger / Response	Green	Amber	Red	Responsibility
Minimising native vegetation disturbance	Section 3.2	Design impact calculations remain below the limits specified in the approval documentation.	Trigger	Area of vegetation clearing calculated is below the approved clearing limits, no more than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28.73 ha of BC Act listed White-Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Woodland CEEC 13.88 ha of EPBC Act listed White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland CEEC 	Area of vegetation clearing calculated is at the approved limits.	Area of vegetation clearing calculated is greater than approved limits.	EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent.
			Response	No action required.	Review detailed design and amend to below approved limits.	Review detailed design and amend to below approved limits.	
		Cumulative area cleared remains below approved limits and tracking as expected.	Trigger	Actual area of vegetation clearing calculated is within approved clearing limits (as mentioned above).	Actual area of vegetation cleared is tracking above expectations and at risk of exceeding approved limits.	Actual area of vegetation cleared exceeds approved limits.	EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent.
			Response	No action required.	Review detailed design to identify where savings can be made to ensure overall approved limits are not exceeded.	Cease vegetation clearing activities. Engage surveyor to confirm clearing extent. Notify non-conformance (see section 4.7). Undertake remediation/rehabilitation in consultation with the relevant authority.	
		Micro sited locations comply with Condition A7: the revised location of the blade of a wind turbine is at least 50 metres from the canopy of existing hollow bearing trees; or where the proposed location of the blade of a wind turbine is already within 50 metres of the canopy of existing hollow-bearing trees, the revised location is not any closer to the existing hollow-bearing tree.	Trigger	3D modelling confirms Condition A7 has been met.	3D modelling indicates Condition A7 cannot be met.	Field clearing/construction indicates Condition A7 is not met.	EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent.
			Response	No action required.	Review Micro siting management procedures and re-implement to ensure compliance.	Stop work. Review micro-siting procedures and amend detailed design.	
		Vegetation clearing remains within the established clearance boundaries per the Permit. HBTs marked for retention have not been disturbed.	Trigger	Demarcated clearing boundaries/marked HBTs remain intact.	Damage/disturbance to clearance boundaries is identified in environmental inspections.	Vegetation has been cleared outside of boundaries. HBTs marked for retention have been cleared.	EPC Contractor
			Response	No action required.	Review pre-clearing procedures. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel. Recheck demarcation of all areas to be cleared.	Review detailed design to identify where savings can be made to ensure overall approved limits are not exceeded. Notify non-conformance (see section 4.7). Undertake remediation/rehabilitation in consultation with the relevant authority	
		Actions identified in the pre-clearing report have been completed. Vegetation is cleared in accordance with the procedure.	Trigger	Appropriate management actions are implemented in compliance with the BMP.	Items which have/should have been identified in the pre-clearing procedure, e.g. HBTs containing fauna, granite rock, aquatic habitat, are identified during active clearing.	Items which have/should have been identified in the pre-clearing procedure, e.g. HBTs containing fauna, are cleared without appropriate management.	EPC Contractor in consultation with a qualified ecologist.
			Response	Record in Vegetation Disturbance Permit.	Review pre-clearing procedures, ensure personnel undertaking pre-clearing surveys are appropriately qualified. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel. Recheck demarcation of all areas to be cleared.	Engage qualified ecologist to undertake a review of pre-clearing procedures to determine if additional steps are required. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel.	
		Minimal impact to fauna as a result of clearing activities.	Trigger	Appropriate management actions are implemented in compliance with the BMP.	Fauna are impacted during clearing.	Multiple (>5) accounts of fauna impacts occurring during clearing are reported	

BMP source	reference	Performance Criteria	Trigger / Response	Green	Amber	Red	Responsibility
			Response	Record in Vegetation Disturbance Permit.	Review pre-clearing procedures. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel. Recheck demarcation of all areas to be cleared.	Engage qualified ecologist to undertake a review of pre-clearing and clearing procedures to determine if additional steps are required. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel.	EPC Contractor in consultation with a qualified ecologist.
		Unexpected threatened species finds are not impacted without appropriate approvals.	Trigger	Appropriate management actions are implemented in compliance with the BMP.	Unexpected finds are identified during clearing which have not been identified in the pre-clearing surveys.	Unexpected finds are impacted during clearing without consideration of unexpected finds procedure.	EPC Contractor in consultation with a qualified ecologist and the relevant authority as required.
			Response	Record in Vegetation Disturbance Permit.	Enact unexpected finds procedure. Review pre-clearing procedures, ensure personnel undertaking pre-clearing surveys are appropriately qualified. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel. Recheck demarcation of all areas to be cleared.	Notify non-conformance (see section 4.7). Undertake remediation/rehabilitation in consultation with the relevant authority. Engage qualified ecologist to undertake a review of procedures to determine if additional steps are required. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel.	
Minimising impacts on fauna		Fauna are not trapped in trenches.	Trigger	Routine inspections do not detect fauna trapped in trenches.	Fauna identified in trenches.	Multiple accounts of fauna trapped in trenches despite design considerations.	EPC Contractor
Section 3.5			Response	No action required. Continue inspecting trenches / pits twice daily whilst excavation remains open.	Review trench design to ensure potential for ingress is minimised and egress is facilitated as much as possible.	Engage appropriately qualified design personnel to review trench design. Increase monitoring effort.	
		Fauna vehicle strikes do not occur.	Trigger	No fauna vehicle strikes are reported on Site.	Fauna vehicle strike occurs on Site.	Multiple fauna vehicle strikes (>5) occur on Site.	EPC Contractor
			Response	No action required, continue to implement speed limits and vehicle access restrictions.	Review vehicle speed limits and reduce as required. Ensure vehicle access is restricted to active works areas.	Reduce site vehicle speed limits. Review vehicle access arrangements. Re-induct all personnel in safe driving practices.	
Minimising the potential indirect impacts on threatened fauna and flora species, migratory species and 'at-risk' species		Dust suppression measures are implemented and no dust complaints are received. Soil stockpiles remain stable.	Trigger	Dust suppression is effective and no complaints are received.	Complaints are received from the community or landowners regarding dust. Soil stockpiles are unstable.	Multiple/recurring complaints are received from the community or landowners regarding dust.	EPC Contractor
Section 3.6			Response	No action required continue to implement dust suppression measures.	Review dust suppression measures, including weather conditions, frequency of watering and ensure they are and have been implemented appropriately.	Stop work in areas identified as generating dust. Review and increase dust suppression measures. Do not undertake works in periods or dry/windy conditions. Engage a suitably qualified environmental contractor to implement a dust monitoring program.	
Maximising salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse (such as fauna habitat enhancement) during the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site		Salvage and reuse of resources has been undertaken.	Trigger	Salvage of resources such as HBTs, stags and granite rocks is undertaken and used in adjacent areas or rehabilitation.	Potentially salvageable items are not identified during pre-clearing, clearing.	Salvage of resources is not undertaken even when identified in pre-clearing/clearing.	EPC Contractor in consultation with the Proponent
Section 3.9			Response	No action required.	Review pre-clearing procedures, ensure personnel undertaking pre-clearing surveys are appropriately qualified. Recommunicate/re-induct procedures to relevant personnel.	Identify cause, e.g. operational procedures, landowner opposition. Undertake a review of pre-clearing, clearing, rehabilitation procedures. Review landowner consultation.	

BMP source	reference	Performance Criteria	Trigger / Response	Green	Amber	Red	Responsibility
Controlling weeds and feral pests <u>Section 3.11</u>		Weed spread and/or incursion does not occur as a result of the Project. Priority weeds will be managed and controlled with the aim of elimination from the Final Development Footprint.	Trigger	Monitoring demonstrates that weed management is effective and weed spread / incursion has not increased relative to the pre-construction weed dilapidation survey results (refer section 3.11). Priority weeds are effectively controlled in accordance with the Biosecurity Duty.	Weed spread is identified in specific work areas relative to the pre-construction weed dilapidation survey results, suggesting that weed hygiene protocols (see section 3.11) to limit the spread of existing weeds. priority weed control is only partially successful, and control actions are not effective at eliminating priority weeds in some locations..	Monitoring indicates that weed incursion/spread has increased across the Site in comparison to baseline. Monitoring indicates that priority weed control is not effective, and that numbers/ density is either not reducing or is increasing.	EPC Contractor
			Response	No action required. Continue to implement weed management program and monitoring.	Engage a suitably qualified agricultural contractor to review weed management actions and develop an area-specific increased/alternative management and monitoring. Re-induct all relevant personnel.	Engage a suitably qualified agricultural contractor to develop a whole-of-Site weed management plan, including reviewing previous control methods and records, and developing targeted priority weed treatment and ongoing monitoring. Re-induct all relevant personnel.	
		The project does not impede feral pest control activities undertaken by the landowner and feral pest numbers do not increase as a result of the project.	Trigger	Records / landowner consultation demonstrates that feral pest numbers are not increasing as a result of the project.	Feral pest increases are identified in specific work areas and management actions are not effective.	Monitoring indicates that weed incursion/spread has increased across the site in comparison to baseline.	EPC Contractor
			Response	No action required. Continue to record sightings and consult with landowners regarding feral pest management.	Engage a suitably qualified agricultural contractor to review weed management actions and develop a area-specific increased/alternative management and monitoring. Re-induct all relevant personnel.	Engage a suitably qualified agricultural contractor to develop a whole-of-site weed management plan, including targeted weed treatment and ongoing monitoring.	
Controlling erosion <u>Section 3.12</u>		Erosion is controlled and does not lead to impacts to biodiversity values	Trigger	Site inspection / audit records demonstrate that erosion controls are being implemented and are effectively controlling erosion. No impacts to biodiversity are being caused by uncontrolled erosion.	Site inspection / audit records demonstrate that erosion controls are either not implemented in accordance with the ESCP or the controls are not effectively controlling erosion, and there is potential for the erosion to impact biodiversity values.	Site inspection / audit records demonstrate that uncontrolled erosion is occurring (due to an absence of controls or ineffective controls) and as a result, there is an actual impact to biodiversity values.	EPC Contractor
			Response	No action required. Continue to implement the erosion and sediment controls in accordance with the relevant ESCP.	Immediately undertake a Site inspection, and identify any necessary corrective actions to address any non-conformance with the ESCP (e.g. maintenance to controls, installation of additional controls). Review and if required, revise the relevant ESCP to ensure it identifies adequate measures to control the erosion. Continue to closely monitor the area to ensure any subsequent erosion is addressed early.	Immediately undertake a Site inspection, and identify any necessary corrective actions to address any non-conformance with the ESCP (e.g. maintenance to controls, installation of additional controls). Review and if required, revise the relevant ESCP to ensure it identifies adequate measures to control the erosion. Site inspection and ESCP review to include input from a CPESC. Continue to closely monitor the area to ensure any subsequent erosion is addressed early. Undertake rehabilitation / remediation to the impacted area. Account for any additional impacts in the vegetation and disturbance register.	

BMP source	reference	Performance Criteria	Trigger / Response	Green	Amber	Red	Responsibility
Bushfire management Section 3.13		Bushfire or grassfires do not occur as a result of the Project.	Trigger	No bushfires or grass fires have occurred as a result of the project.	An event has occurred which had the potential to ignite a bushfire or grass fire as a result of project activities.	An event has occurred which has ignited a bushfire or grass fire as a result of Project activities.	EPC Contractor
			Response	No action required.	Review the Emergency Plan and any other plans, procedures, protocols, permits or work method statements that relate to mitigating the risk of fire ignition. Revise the document if required to include further measures to address the risk of fire ignition.	Implement the relevant Emergency Plan as an immediate response to the fire. If an Incident has occurred, undertake Incident notification in accordance with section 4.6. Undertake remediation/rehabilitation in consultation with the relevant authority. Review the Emergency Plan and any other plans, procedures or protocols, permits or work methods that relate to mitigating the risk of fire ignition. Revise the document if required to include further measures to address the risk of fire ignition.	

4.6 Incident notification and reporting

In accordance with the Development Consent, an Incident is defined as:

An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance.

If the Applicant becomes aware of an Incident, the Department will be notified of the Incident in writing via the Major Projects portal immediately in accordance with Condition C10 . The immediate notification will identify the development (SSD-6687; Uungula Wind Farm) and will identify the location and nature of the Incident.

A subsequent written notification will be given to the Planning Secretary within 7 days after the Applicant becomes aware of an Incident. This written notification will be provided via the Major Projects portal and will:

- a. identify the development and application number (Uungula Wind Farm; SSD-6687);
- b. provide details of the Incident (date, time, location, a brief description of what occurred and why it is classified as an Incident);
- c. identify how the incident was detected;
- d. identify when the applicant became aware of the Incident;
- e. identify any actual or potential Non-compliance with conditions of consent;
- f. describe what immediate steps were taken in relation to the Incident;
- g. identify further action(s) that will be taken in relation to the Incident; and
- h. identify a project contact for further communication regarding the Incident

Within 30 days of the date on which the Incident occurred or as otherwise agreed to by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must provide the Planning Secretary and any relevant public authorities (as determined by the Planning Secretary) with a detailed report on the Incident addressing all requirements below, and such further reports as may be requested.

The Incident Report must include:

- a. a summary of the Incident;
- b. outcomes of an Incident investigation, including identification of the cause of the Incident;
- c. details of the corrective and preventative actions that have been, or will be, implemented to address the Incident and prevent recurrence; and
- d. details of any communication with other stakeholders regarding the Incident.

4.7 Non-compliance notification and reporting

In accordance with the Development Consent, a Non-compliance is defined as:

An occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of this consent.

If the Applicant becomes aware of a Non-compliance, the Planning Secretary will be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days of becoming aware of the Non-compliance. The written notification will identify the development and the application number (Uungula Wind Farm; SSD-6687). It will set out the condition of consent that the development is non-compliance with, the way in which it does not comply and the reasons for the Non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been taken, or will be, undertaken to address the Non-compliance.

It is noted that a Non-compliance which has already been notified as an Incident does not need to also be notified as a Non-compliance.

Appendix A Consultation log

Table 11: BMP Consultation Log

Action	Issues raised	Response
<p>Draft BMP was provided to BCS for review.</p> <p>BCS recommendations were received on 22 April 2022.</p>	<p>BCS recommendations included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include a description of the management measures that would be implemented for each of the specific matters listed in approval condition B23(b) within the BMP – not by reference to additional documents. 2. Include a detailed program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of each of the measures required by approval condition B23(b) within the BMP – not by reference to additional documents. 	<p>The BMP was amended as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The BMP was updated with additional detail on the management measures that will be required for each of the matters listed in approval condition B23(b). Where these requirements must carry through to an additional plan to be developed by the EPC Contractor, this has been noted. 2. The monitoring and reporting program was updated to identify the monitoring and reporting associated with each of the management measures that are outlined within BMP Section 3 (Biodiversity Management Measures).
<p>A revised BMP was provided to BCS for review on 12 October 2022.</p> <p>BCS comments were received on 17 October 2022 and have been addressed.</p>	<p>The key BCS comments included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In general, the revised BMP addresses the issues raised by BCS in their response of 22 April 2022. 2. Discussion of feral pest control is limited to two short paragraphs. The BMP should include measures to control and monitor rabbit populations on the wind farm. 3. The definition of hollow-bearing tree refers to a "dominant or co-dominant living tree". BCS recommends that the definition provided in the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) be used. 	<p>The BMP was amended as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted. 2. Section 3.11 has been updated to identify that rabbits are known to occur in the area and that control and monitoring for rabbits will be undertaken at the wind farm. <p>Further, a reference has been included to the Bird and Bat Adaptive Management Plan, which will also identify mitigation measures for bird and bat strike in relation to feral pest management.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The definition for hollow bearing tress has been updated consistent with the BCS recommendation, and the BAM.
<p>BMP v001 was submitted to the DPE on 23 November 2022.</p> <p>Comments were received back from DPE on 9 February 2023.</p>	<p>The DPE feedback included a new round of comments from BCS. The key comments included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further information required about the site induction. 2. Additional biodiversity monitoring measures and a Trigger Action Response Plan. 3. Additional measures for erosion control. 	<p>The following key updates were made the BMP:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Addition of induction information at Section 3.1. 2. Additional information regarding a Vegetation Disturbance Permit (Section 3.2.5). Updates to the biodiversity monitoring and reporting Table (Table 9). Inclusion of Trigger Action Response Plans (Table 10). 3. Additional detail added regarding the preparation of an erosion and sediment control plan (ESCP) prior

to commencing construction, and
what the ESCP will address.

Appendix B Additional compliance requirements

Table 12: Additional conditions and compliance requirements (Development Consent SSD-6687)

Condition	Condition Wording	Commitment to Compliance
EVIDENCE OF CONSULTATION		
A9	<p>Where conditions of this consent require consultation with an identified party, the Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> consult with the relevant party prior to submitting the subject document to the Planning Secretary for approval; and provide details of the consultation undertaken including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the outcome of that consultation, matters resolved and unresolved; and details of any disagreement remaining between the party consulted and the Applicant and how the Applicant has addressed the matters not resolved. 	<p>Details of consultation completed with an identified party are included in this Management Strategy/Plan/Program.</p>
COMPLIANCE		
A13	<p>The Applicant must ensure that all of its employees, contractors (and their sub-contractors) are made aware of, and are instructed to comply with, the conditions of this consent relevant to activities they carry out in respect of the development.</p>	<p>Employees, contractors, and sub-contractors will be made aware of, and will be instructed to comply with the conditions of the consent, including the requirements of Management Plans and Strategies that are relevant to the works they carry out. This will be achieved through Project inductions, toolbox talks, and other training and awareness requirements detailed within the Environmental Management Strategy.</p>
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE		
A20	<p>The Applicant must operate a Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for the development in accordance with the Department's Community Consultative Committee Guidelines: State Significant Projects (2016), or its latest version.</p>	<p>A Community Consultative Committee (CCC) has been established for the Ungula Wind Farm in accordance with the Department's Guideline.</p> <p>Minutes of the CCC meetings will be made publicly available via the Project Website, at: http://squadronenergy.com/our-projects/uungula-wind-farm</p>

Condition	Condition Wording	Commitment to Compliance
REVISION OF STRATEGIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMS		
C2	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> update the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary prior to carrying out any upgrading or decommissioning activities on site; and review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary within 3 month of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> submission of an incident report under condition C10 of Schedule 2; submission of an audit report under condition C15 of Schedule 2; or any modification to the conditions of this consent. 	<p>The Proponent will ensure that Management Strategies, Plans, and Programs will be reviewed and updated in accordance with the requirements of this Condition.</p> <p>If a Strategy, Plan or Program is updated, then the Proponent will comply with the requirements of Condition C3 regarding approval.</p>
STAGING, COMBINING AND UPDATING STRATEGIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS		
C3	<p>With the approval of the Planning Secretary, the Applicant may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> prepare and submit any strategy, plan or program required by this consent on a staged basis (if a clear description is provided as to the specific stage and scope of the development to which the strategy, plan or program applies, the relationship of the stage to any future stages and the trigger for updating the strategy, plan or program); combine any strategy, plan or program required by this consent (if a clear relationship is demonstrated between the strategies, plans or programs that are proposed to be combined); and update any strategy, plan or program required by this consent (to ensure the strategies, plans and programs required under this consent are updated on a regular basis and incorporate additional measures or amendments to improve the environmental performance of the development). 	<p>The Project will be developed in two stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 1: Wind Farm and associated infrastructure with the exception of the 'Battery Storage Facility'. Stage 2: Battery Storage Facility. <p>The Planning Secretary has agreed that the Fire Hazard Analysis (condition B38) and Fire Safety Study (condition B39) are only required for Stage 2.</p> <p>All other Strategies, Plans and Programs will be prepared and submitted for Stage 1, and then updated for Stage 2 where required.</p> <p>Updated Strategies, Plans and Programs will be submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval in accordance with Condition C3(c).</p>
C4	<p>If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged or updated without consultation being undertaken with all parties required to be consulted in the relevant condition in this consent</p>	<p>The Proponent will stage or update Strategies, Plans or Programs in consultation with the relevant identified party, unless the Secretary has agreed that the consultation is not required.</p>
C5	<p>If approved by the Planning Secretary, updated strategies, plans or programs supersede the previous versions of them and must be implemented in accordance with the condition that requires the strategy, plan or program.</p>	<p>Updated Strategies, Plans and Programs will supersede the previous versions of them and will be implemented in accordance with the relevant condition. Also, the plan will be updated on the project website in accordance with Condition C16.</p>

Condition	Condition Wording	Commitment to Compliance
C6	If the Planning Secretary agrees, a strategy, plan or program may be staged without addressing particular requirements of the relevant condition of this consent if those requirements are not applicable to the particular stage.	<p>The Project will be developed in two stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1: Wind Farm and associated infrastructure with the exception of the 'Battery Storage Facility'. • Stage 2: Battery Storage Facility. <p>The Planning Secretary has agreed that the Fire Hazard Analysis (condition B38) and Fire Safety Study (condition B39) are only required for Stage 2.</p> <p>All other Strategies, Plans and Programs will be prepared and submitted for Stage 1, and then updated for Stage 2 where required.</p>
NOTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT		
C7	Prior to commencing the construction, operations, upgrading or decommissioning of the development or the cessation of operations, the Applicant must notify the Department in writing via the Major Projects website portal of the date of commencement, or cessation, of the relevant phase. If any of these phases of the development are to be staged, then the Applicant must notify the Department in writing prior to commencing the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage.	Prior to commencing the construction, operations, upgrading or decommissioning of the development or the cessation of operations, the Applicant will notify the Department in writing via the Major Projects website portal of the date of commencement, or cessation, of the relevant phase. If any of these phases of the development are to be staged, then the Applicant will notify the Department in writing prior to commencing the relevant stage, and clearly identify the development that would be carried out during the relevant stage.
FINAL LAYOUT PLANS		
C8	<p>Prior to commencing construction, the Applicant must submit detailed plans of the final layout of the development to the Department via the Major Projects website, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. details on siting of wind turbines, including micro-siting of any wind turbines and/or ancillary infrastructure (including wind monitoring masts); b. the GPS coordinates of the wind turbines; and c. showing comparison to the approved layout. <p>The Applicant must ensure that the development is constructed in accordance with the Final Layout Plans.</p>	Detailed plans of the final layout of the development will be submitted to the Department via the Major Projects website, prior to the commencement of construction, in accordance with this Condition.
WORK AS EXECUTED PLANS		
C9	Prior to commencing operations or following the upgrades of any wind turbines or ancillary infrastructure, the Applicant must submit work as executed plans of the development and showing comparison to the final layout plans to the Planning Secretary, via the Major Projects website.	<p>Work As Executed Plans will be submitted to the Planning Secretary prior to commencing operations or following the upgrades of any wind turbines or ancillary infrastructure.</p> <p>Note: The Work as Executed Plans can only be produced upon completion of construction of the development.</p>

Condition	Condition Wording	Commitment to Compliance
INCIDENT NOTIFICATION		
C10	The Department must be notified via the Major Projects website portal immediately after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and the name of the development if it has one), and set out the location and nature of the incident. Subsequent notification requirements must be given, and reports submitted in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 9.	<p>If the Applicant becomes aware of an Incident, the Department will be notified in writing via the Major Projects portal as soon as practicable.</p> <p>The requirements of Appendix 9 '<i>Incident Notification and Reporting Requirements</i>' are listed at the bottom of this Table.</p> <p>An Incident is defined as:</p> <p><i>An occurrence or set of circumstances that causes or threatens to cause material harm and which may or may not be or cause a non-compliance.</i></p>
NON-COMPLIANCE NOTIFICATION		
C11	The Planning Secretary must be notified in writing via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Applicant becomes aware of any non-compliance.	<p>The Proponent will submit a written notification to the Department via the Major Projects website, within seven days of becoming aware of any non-compliance.</p> <p>A non-compliance is defined as:</p> <p><i>An occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of this consent.</i></p>
C12	A non-compliance 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, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.	Any non-compliance notification submitted to the Department under Condition C11 will address the requirements of Condition C12.
C13	A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance	The Proponent notes that a non-compliance does not need to be notified to the Department if it has already been notified as an Incident.
INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT		
C15	Independent Audits of the development must be conducted and carried out at the frequency described and in accordance with the Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements (2020), unless otherwise agreed or directed by the Planning Secretary.	<p>Unless otherwise agreed or directed by the Planning Secretary, an Independent Environmental Audit will be conducted in accordance with the timeframes nominated in the PAR (2020), being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • within the 12 weeks of the commencement of construction; • during construction, at intervals no greater than 6 months from the date of the initial audit; • within 6 months of commencement of operations; and • at intervals no greater than 3 years from the initial operational audit.

Condition	Condition Wording	Commitment to Compliance
ACCESS TO INFORMATION		
C16	<p>The Applicant must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the EIS; ii. the final layout plans for the development; iii. current statutory approvals for the development; iv. approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent; v. the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation and/or decommissioning of the development is to be staged; vi. 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; vii. a complaints register, which is to be updated on a monthly basis; viii. minutes of CCC meetings; ix. the annual Statement of Compliance with the EPL; x. any independent environmental audit, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and xi. any other matter required by the Planning Secretary; and b. keep this information up to date 	<p>The Proponent will make this information available on the website, including Management Strategies, Plans and Programs per item (iv).</p>

Condition	Condition Wording	Commitment to Compliance
INCIDENT NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS		
APPENDIX 9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A written incident notification addressing the requirements set out below must be submitted to the Planning Secretary via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Applicant becomes aware of an incident. Notification is required to be given under this condition even if the Applicant fails to give the notification required under condition C10 of Schedule 2 or, having given such notification, subsequently forms the view that an incident has not occurred. 2. Written notification of an incident must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> b. identify the development and application number; c. provide details of the incident (date, time, location, a brief description of what occurred and why it is classified as an incident); d. identify how the incident was detected; e. identify when the applicant became aware of the incident; f. identify any actual or potential non-compliance with conditions of consent; g. describe what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident; h. identify further action(s) that will be taken in relation to the incident; and i. identify a project contact for further communication regarding the incident 3. Within 30 days of the date on which the incident occurred or as otherwise agreed to by the Planning Secretary, the Applicant must provide the Planning Secretary and any relevant public authorities (as determined by the Planning Secretary) with a detailed report on the incident addressing all requirements below, and such further reports as may be requested. 4. The Incident Report must include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> j. a summary of the incident; k. outcomes of an incident investigation, including identification of the cause of the incident; l. details of the corrective and preventative actions that have been, or will be, implemented to address the incident and prevent recurrence; and m. details of any communication with other stakeholders regarding the incident. 	<p>This information will be included in any written Incident Notification that is submitted to the Department in accordance with Condition C10.</p>

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.

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