

Cattle Creek Wind Farm

Application Number: **02830**

Commencement Date:
21/03/2025

Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Cattle Creek Wind Farm

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Energy Generation and Supply (renewable)

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Wind Farm

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/01/2027

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/01/2062

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Pty Ltd (the Proponent) proposes to construct, operate and decommission the Cattle Creek Wind Farm (Proposed Action). The Proponent is a wholly owned and direct subsidiary of RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Holding Pty Ltd which is a wholly owned subsidiary of RWE Renewables Europe & Australia GmbH. RWE Renewables Australia Pty Ltd (RWE) is also a wholly owned subsidiary of RWE Renewables Europe & Australia GmbH and is therefore a related company of the Proponent. The Proposed Action consists of up to 143 wind turbine generators (WTG) and other ancillary infrastructure, located approximately 60 km south-west of Dalby in the Toowoomba and Western Downs regions of Queensland.

The following terminology is used throughout this referral form in relation to the Proposed Action (refer to Att. A, Part 1, Figure 1-1, pp. 10 and Figure 2-1, pp. 15):

- The Study Area, covers a total area of 20,787.9 hectares (ha) and encompasses the Project Area and the Proposed Access Route;
- The Project Area, covers an area of approximately 20,438.0 ha and encompasses the 12 land parcels hosting the WTG and associated infrastructure;
- The Proposed Access Route covers an area of approximately 349.9 ha along Cecil Plains Moonie Road and will support external access to the Project Area;
- The Disturbance Footprint, is anticipated to be up to 1,438.0 ha (7% of the Project Area), represents the land within the Project Area that may be directly impacted during the life of the Proposed Action; and
- Proposed Access Route Impact Area, is anticipated to be up to 1.9 ha.

The Proposed Action will consist of the following components, subject to detailed design:

- Up to 143 WTGs, including foundations, crane hardstand, crane boom laydown blade laydown and a rotor assembly area;
- Access tracks, including:
 - New and upgraded tracks within Project Area generally comprising a nominal 6.5 metre (m) wide access track for light vehicles and a 40 m wide corridor for oversize overmass (OSOM) vehicles;
 - Upgrades to the Proposed Access Route, generally to be 40 m wide to allow for blade swept paths;
- Underground cabling (low voltage (LV) and medium voltage (MV)) and overhead transmission lines (MV and high voltage (HV));
- Up to four collector substations;
- Electrical switching station (noting that the switching station infrastructure will be constructed, owned and operated by the electricity provider rather than the Proponent, as discussed below);
- Battery energy storage systems (BESS);
- Up to 8 permanent meteorological masts;
- Construction compounds and laydown areas;
- Concrete batching plants;
- Operational and maintenance facilities;
- A construction workers accommodation facility;
- Potential washdown areas;
- Potential on-site quarries with associated crushing and screening plant; and
- Potential communications tower.

The Proponent is in discussions with the electricity network provider for the Proposed Action to be connected to the electricity transmission network via a new switching station. An existing 330 kV transmission line traverses the Study Area (refer Att. A, Part 1, Figure F1-1, pp. 10). The Disturbance Footprint accounts for the site of a new switching station adjacent to the existing transmission line to allow for potential impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) associated with clearing of

the site to be assessed for the purpose of this referral (noting however that the switching station infrastructure will be constructed, owned and operated by the electricity network provider rather than the Proponent).

The key activities likely to impact ecological values during construction, operation and decommissioning include:

Construction

- Vegetation clearing (for new access tracks, temporary construction compounds and laydowns areas, borrow pits, water storage, concrete batching plants, wind turbine pads, trenches for power and instrumentation cables, electrical switching station and overhead powerlines, and associated earthworks) may result in a direct impact to MNES through the removal of habitat, direct impacts on flora and fauna, and the disruption of ecological processes;
- Excavating trenches requires the clearing of vegetation and disruption of soil structure, which may impact vegetation and geological stability and acoustic disturbance, potentially impacting MNES;
- Construction traffic movements and plant operations (rock crushing and concrete batching plants) may result in collisions with fauna, acoustic disturbance, habitat destruction and localised air pollution, potentially impacting MNES; and
- Further information on potential impacts resulting from the construction of the Proposed Action can be found in the Cattle Creek Wind Farm MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report (MNES SIA Report) (Att. A, Part 4, Section 6.1, pp. 218).

Operations

- Operation of the WTGs for an estimated period of 30 – 35 years, resulting in potential bird and bat collision risks;
- Routine maintenance and servicing of WTGs, access tracks, electrical installations, and infrastructure as required, resulting in potential impacts of vehicle mortality and incidents, habitat disturbance, disturbance and potential hazardous materials exposure; and
- Further information on potential impacts resulting from the operation of the Proposed Action can be found in the MNES SIA Report (Att. A, Part 4, Section 6.2, pp. 218).

Decommissioning

- Decommissioning phase impacts are similar to those that might occur during the construction phase but likely to be of a much lower magnitude as there is no additional vegetation clearing anticipated and
- Further information on potential impacts resulting from the decommissioning of the Proposed Action can be found in the MNES SIA Report (Att. A, Part 4, Section 6.3, pp. 219).

The infrastructure siting and design of the Proposed Action has been refined through an iterative process, taking into account environmental, wind resource, constructability, landholder, traditional owner, and transmission network considerations. The design refinement process focused on the avoidance and minimisation of environmental impacts through the various stages of layout planning and the coordination of these aspects with engineering design and wind resource restrictions. The siting and design will be even further refined during the detailed engineering design phase, to reduce impacts where possible.

Rehabilitation of disturbed areas will be carried out in both the post-construction and decommissioning phases.

The Proponent is committed to ensuring that decommissioning is conducted in accordance with best practice and will investigate the opportunity to repower the new WTGs in the first instance. Where repowering is not possible or at the ultimate end of the life of Proposed Action, the Proponent will seek to reinstate disturbed land to a pre-construction state, or where more appropriate, a pre-decommissioning

state, in accordance with best practice and relevant legal requirements. Where appropriate and in compliance with any applicable legal requirements, landholders will be given the option to retain access tracks and hardstands to benefit their agricultural operations.

Transport route activities outside the Study Area

Preliminary traffic impact and route assessments have indicated that during the construction phase, key infrastructure components such as WTG blades and base tower sections are anticipated to be delivered to the Project Area by road using a transport route from the Port of Brisbane via the Gateway and Logan Motorways, Toowoomba Bypass and Warrego Highway. Potential use of the Moonie Highway, Toowoomba Cecil Plains Road, Gore Highway or Dalby-Cecil Plains Road is under further investigation and in consultation with regulators. Most of the potential transport routes are currently suitable to transport the required components and equipment to the Project Area, although some intersections and access points and narrow local roads may require minor road works to facilitate delivery of large components such as WTG blades.

A more detailed ecological assessment will be carried out, once the route and its requirements, such as width, have been finalised. In the event that it is determined that the transport route activities outside the Study Area would be likely to result in any significant impacts on MNES, whether alone or cumulatively with other impacts associated with the Proposed Action, the Proponent will take appropriate steps to ensure they are assessed and approved as required under *the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). For the avoidance of doubt, the Proposed Access Route within the Study Area has been included in the assessment of impacts contemplated in this referral.

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

No

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

The MNES SIA Report outlines the specific Commonwealth, State and local legislation, administering authority and the regulatory framework relevant to the Proposed Action (Att. A, Part 1, Section 3, pp. 16).

Commonwealth Legislation

- EPBC Act 1999 (Cth)– the Proposed Action is considered to be a controlled action requiring assessment and approval under the EPBC Act; and
- EPBC Act Environmental Offset Policy 2012 – This policy applies where residual significant impact on a MNES is expected to occur from the Proposed Action. This policy provides guidance on the role of offsets and when a proposed offset is considered suitable.
- Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 - This significant impact guidelines provide overarching guidance on determining whether an action is likely to have a significant impact on a matter protected under national environment law — the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- EPBC Act Policy Statement 2.34 – Wind Farm Industry 2009 - The purpose of this policy statement is to assist operators in the wind farm industry to decide whether or not proposed actions require referral under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

State Legislation

- Planning Act 2016 (Qld) and Planning Regulation 2017 (Qld) – A development permit for a material change of use, operational works and reconfiguring a lot will be required to facilitate the development of the Proposed Action. The State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA) will be the assessment manager for the development application, which will be assessed against relevant State Development Assessment Provisions including State Code 16: Native vegetation clearing and State Code 23: Wind farm development;
- Nature Conservation Act 1992 (Qld) (NC Act) and regulation – The desktop assessment and subsequent ecology surveys have identified the presence of flora and fauna species that are protected under the NC Act. Authorisations under the NC Act may be required, such as a Species Management Program for tampering with animal breeding places;
- Vegetation Management Act 1999 (Qld) (VM Act) - The desktop assessment and subsequent field surveys identified the presence of native vegetation, and a development permit under the Planning Act will be required to clear native vegetation;
- Biosecurity Act 2014 (Qld) and regulation - This Act provides for the management of biosecurity risks in Queensland. Amongst other things, the Act imposes a general biosecurity obligation and other requirements in relation to biosecurity matters such as pests, diseases and contaminants;
- Environmental Offsets Act 2014 (Qld) and regulation, Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy version 1.16 - An environmental offset condition may be imposed under various State assessment frameworks for an activity that will have or is likely to have a significant residual impact (SRI) on a prescribed environmental matter;
- Fisheries Act 1994 (Fisheries Act) - Constructing or raising waterway barrier works for waterways identified under the Fisheries Act may trigger the need for a development permit under the Planning Act; and
- Water Act 2000 (Water Act) - Authorisation under the Water Act may be required, dependent on the final layout, for clearing riparian vegetation and excavating or placing fill in a watercourse.

Local Legislation

- Western Downs Planning Scheme 2017 and Toowoomba Regional Planning Scheme 2022 - Secondary development for the Proposed Action (for example, operational works or building works) may be regulated by these planning schemes.

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed consultation documentations, if relevant. *

RWE's guiding principles for stakeholder engagement are to build transparent and constructive relationships with landholders, near neighbours, the community, traditional owners and other interested parties. RWE has been engaging with stakeholders regarding the Proposed Action since late 2022. It has applied a structured and planned approach to stakeholder engagement that is underpinned by stakeholder mapping and risk frameworks.

The following community consultation activities have been undertaken to date:

- Establishment of a website for the Proposed Action (www.cattlecreekwindfarm.com.au) including project contact details (1800 phone number and email address);
- Community drop-in information sessions;
- Face to face meetings and regular phone and email exchanges with fence line neighbours;
- Door knocking for all residents within 5 km of the Project Area; and
- Newsletter letterbox drops for residents within 10 km of the Project Area.

The community drop-in sessions allowed the community to view the proposed Disturbance Footprint and learn more about the studies being undertaken to support the development of the Proposed Action. Community drop-in sessions took place on 6th and 7th June 2024 as half-day gatherings at the Cecil Plains Golf Club. Each session was attended by approximately 40 members of the community. The Proponent will be holding further drop-in sessions on 26th and 27th March 2025.

Sponsorship Fund: the Proponent currently offers a Sponsorship Fund of up to \$100,000 whilst the Proposed Action is in development stage. The purpose of the Sponsorship Fund is to support the delivery of community projects and initiatives during the planning, approvals and potential pre-construction phase of the Proposed Action, and sponsorships are applied for in writing and assessed on merit.

When the Proposed Action moves into Construction Phase, the sponsorship program will be transitioned into RWE's Community Benefit Fund program with an annual budget of approximately \$500,000.

Consultation with Traditional Owners has been undertaken and is ongoing via a collaborative relationship with the Registered Native Title Body Corporate, the Bigambul Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (BNTAC). An Early Works Agreement with BNTAC is in place and a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) is currently in preparation.

Consultation has been undertaken and is ongoing with the following government agencies and other interested parties:

- Queensland Government including: SARA and the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning. SARA also advocates the interests of the relevant Queensland Government departments, being:
 - Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI)
 - Department of Transport and Main Roads
 - Department of Primary Industries
 - Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development (NRMMRRD)
- Powerlink Queensland;
- Toowoomba Regional Council; and
- Western Downs Regional Council.

Refer to Att. F for RWE's Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan and further detail on consultation regarding the Proposed Action to date.

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

By completing and submitting this form, you consent to the collection of all personal information contained in this form. If you are providing the personal information of other individuals in this form, please ensure you have their consent before doing so.

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) collects your personal information (as defined by the Privacy Act 1988) through this platform for the purposes of enabling the department to consider your submission and contact you in relation to your submission. If you fail to provide some or all of the personal information requested on this platform (name and email address), the department will be unable to contact you to seek further information (if required) and subsequently may impact the consideration given to your submission.

Personal information may be disclosed to other Australian government agencies, persons or organisations where necessary for the above purposes, provided the disclosure is consistent with relevant laws, in particular the Privacy Act 1988 (Privacy Act). Your personal information will be used and stored in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles.

See our Privacy Policy to learn more about accessing or correcting personal information or making a complaint. Alternatively, email us at privacy@awe.gov.au.

Confirm that you have read and understand this Privacy Notice *

1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| ABN/ACN | 12002773248 |
| Organisation name | ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA PTY LIMITED |
| Organisation address | Level 14, 207 Kent Street 2000 NSW |

Referring party details

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Name | Matt Davis |
| Job title | Principal Ecologist |
| Phone | 0421 879 950 |
| Email | matt.davis@erm.com |
| Address | Level 14, 207 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000 |

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

No

1.3.2.2 Is Person proposing to take the action an organisation or business? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

ABN/ACN 681745960
Organisation name RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD
Organisation address Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 VIC

Person proposing to take the action details

Name Peter Veljkovic
Job title Chief Development Officer
Phone 0396002698
Email cattlecreekwindfarm@rwe.com
Address Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

No

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action's history of responsible environmental management including details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Person proposing to take the action. *

The Proponent is a wholly owned and direct subsidiary of RWE Cattle Creek Onshore Wind Holding Pty Ltd which is a wholly owned subsidiary of RWE Renewables Europe & Australia GmbH. RWE Renewables Australia Pty Ltd (RWE) is developing a portfolio of wind, solar and battery storage projects across Australia. RWE is also a wholly owned subsidiary of RWE Renewables Europe & Australia GmbH and is therefore a related company of the Proponent. Currently, RWE Renewables Europe & Australia GmbH owns and operates the Limondale Sun Farm through another wholly owned subsidiary of RWE Limondale Sun Farm Holding Pty Ltd (RWE Limondale).

There are no current or historical proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Proponent, RWE or RWE Limondale.

RWE is committed to the protection of the environment, conservation of natural resources and reducing emissions evidenced through the RWE Biodiversity Policy (refer to Att. B). RWE ensures compliance through environmental policies that uphold operator obligations and sustainability practices, ensuring responsible environmental protection and preventing serious adverse effects (refer to Att. C).

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

RWE has a suite of policies and guidelines surrounding environmental protection, biodiversity and sustainability.

An environmental protection policy was implemented by RWE in January 2024 and remains in force and is available for public view (refer to Att. C). This directive outlines that in the context of environmental protection, RWE fulfils its responsibility and ensures that the business-related environmental aspects are identified and considered throughout all project phases. RWE are investing heavily in the expansion of renewable energies and are consistently reducing CO2 emissions with the intention of achieving climate-neutral impacts by 2040. RWE is also working towards implementing strategies to achieve net positive impact on biodiversity.

RWE published a biodiversity policy in December 2022 that is intended to establish a reference framework for integrating the protection and promotion of biodiversity within the scope of our business activities (refer to Att. B). The biodiversity framework encompasses principles such as choosing asset locations, minimising impacts during construction, monitoring impacts during operation as well as taking into account end-of-life solutions years prior to decommissioning requirements.

Finally, and as of January 2024, RWE committed to start making nature-related disclosures based on the recommendations made by the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (refer to Att. D). As an early adopter of this scheme, RWE are supporting broader climate-related sustainability reporting and policies.

RWE communicates all environmental and biodiversity activities on its website and in annual sustainability reporting (refer to Att. E).

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details

ABN/ACN 681745960
Organisation name RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD
Organisation address Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 VIC

Proposed designated proponent details

Name Peter Veljkovic
Job title Chief Development Officer
Phone 0396002698
Email cattlecreekwindfarm@rwe.com
Address Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

✔ Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| ABN/ACN | 12002773248 |
| Organisation name | ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA PTY LIMITED |
| Organisation address | Level 14, 207 Kent Street 2000 NSW |
| Representative's name | Matt Davis |
| Representative's job title | Principal Ecologist |
| Phone | 0421 879 950 |
| Email | matt.davis@erm.com |
| Address | Level 14, 207 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000 |

✔ Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| ABN/ACN | 681745960 |
| Organisation name | RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD |
| Organisation address | Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 VIC |
| Representative's name | Peter Veljkovic |
| Representative's job title | Chief Development Officer |
| Phone | 0396002698 |
| Email | cattlecreekwindfarm@rwe.com |
| Address | Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 |

✔ Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

Yes

1.4.10 Enter purchase order number *

4300041444

1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Third party

1.4.12 Is the third party an organisation? *

Yes

1.4.13 Do they have an existing ABN or ACN? *

Yes

1.4.14 ABN/ACN *

681745960

1.4.16 Organisation name *

RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD

1.4.17 Organisation's primary address *

Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 VIC

1.4.18 First name *

Peter

1.4.19 Last name *

Veljkovic

1.4.20 Job title *

Chief Development Officer

1.4.21 Phone *

0396002698

1.4.22 Email *

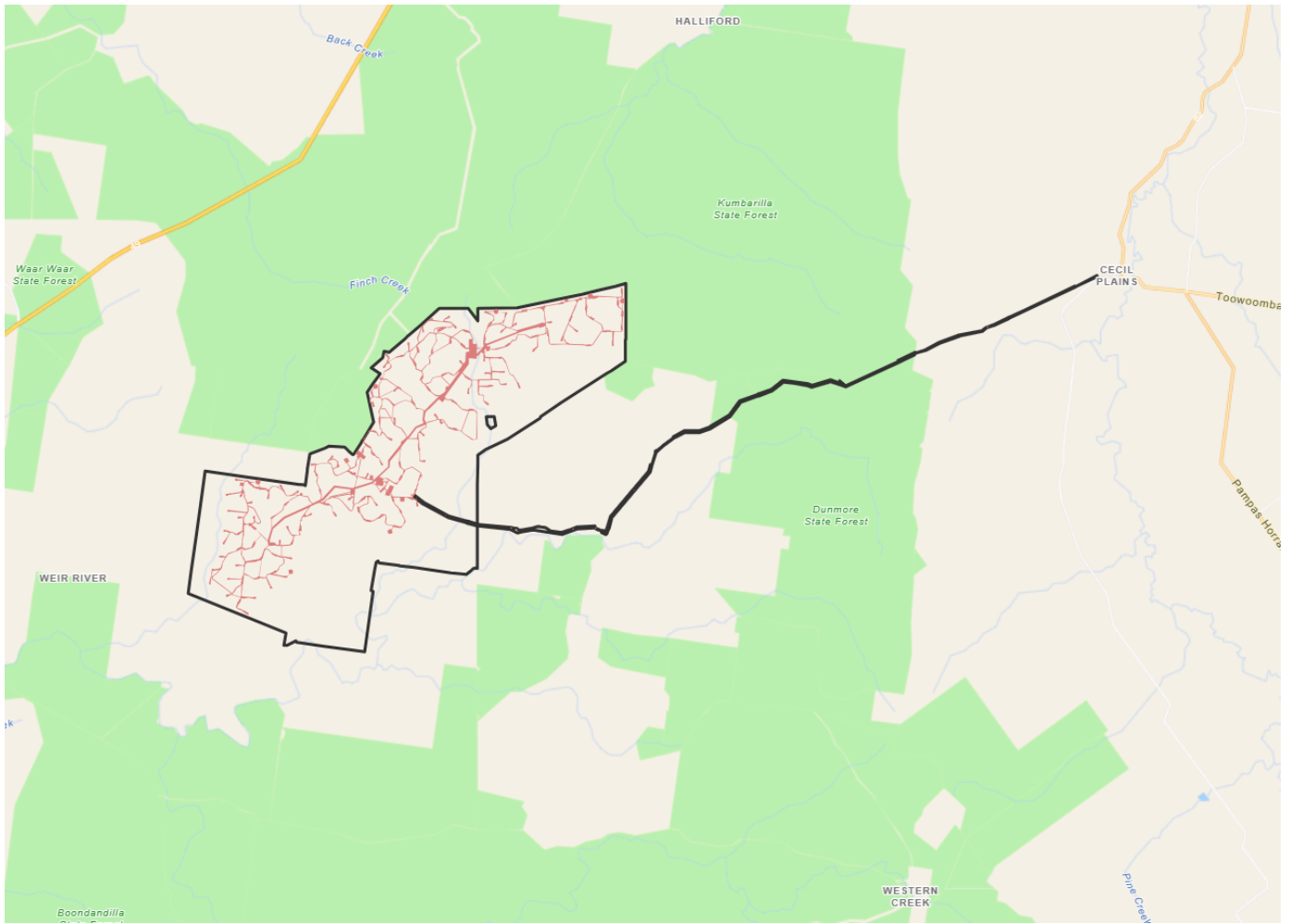
Accounts.au@rwe.com

1.4.23 Address *

Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 VIC

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



Project Area: 20814.17 Ha Disturbance Footprint: 1442.27 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

4058 CECIL PLAINS MOONIE RD, CATTLE CREEK QLD 4407

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Queensland

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

The Study Area is made up of 12 freehold lots (Att. A, Part 1, Section 2.1, pp. 11) as well as some road reserves including Cecil Plains Moonie Road.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.

The Study Area is located approximately 60 km south-west of Dalby, in the Toowoomba and Western Downs regions of Queensland.

Historical clearing and cattle grazing has prevented recovery of native ecological conditions throughout the majority of the Study Area. Ecological and landscape features observed within the Study Area are typical of the region and include eucalypt dominated open forest and woodlands on alluvial plains and igneous rock. The landscape is characterised largely by non-remnant grasslands with historic clearing and dieback. Numerous regions of the Study Area are less degraded however and offer higher ecological value.

The Study Area has been broken down into ten broad habitat types, defined based on vegetation type, structure and habitat features. The dominant broad habitat type across the Study Area is agricultural land and cleared land, accounting for approximately half of the Study Area. The habitats in the Study Area are mostly in moderate to low condition, particularly those heavily associated with the historical clearing and grazing land use, with signs of degradation due to cattle grazing, erosion and the presence of introduced flora species (refer to Att. A, Part 2, Section 5.1.2, pp. 73).

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

Existing Uses

The Study Area is primarily used for cattle grazing and associated rural dwellings and infrastructure, including tracks, yards, fences and dams. An existing 330 kV electricity transmission line traverses the Study Area (refer Att. A, Part 1, Figure F1-1, pp. 10).

The Study Area occurs within two local government areas (LGAs): the Western Downs Region and Toowoomba Region. Under both the Western Downs Planning Scheme 2017 and Toowoomba Regional Planning Scheme 2022, the Study Area is zoned as Rural.

Proposed Land Use

There are no known alternative proposed uses for the Study Area other than the continuation of grazing and associated land uses.

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

There are no natural features and/or any other important or unique values specific to the Study Area under the EPBC Act. There are five State Forests that occur within 15 km of the Study Area which are: Waar Waar State Forest, Kumbarilla State Forest, Boondandilla State Forest, Dunmore State Forest and Western Creek State Forest. Notwithstanding, the Proponent recognises the importance of potential cultural heritage values that may be present in the Study Area and is working with the Traditional Owners to identified and mitigate any associated impacts.

3.1.4 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The topography of the Study Area is predominantly flat to undulating abounded by ridgelines and central, sporadic, occurrences of jump ups. The incline and decline of these rises are generally rocky with remnant ironbark woodland along the ridges.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

Six field investigations were undertaken within the Study Area between December 2023 and March 2025. Field survey locations, timing, techniques, and survey effort are provided in the MNES SIA Report (refer to Att. A, Part 1, Section 4.4, pp. 23). A summary of the field investigation effort is provided below:

- Four ecologists undertook a five-day field survey from 4 – 8 December 2023, with a total 200 person-hours on the ground. The field survey focused on vegetation assessments, habitat quality assessments, targeted fauna surveys (camera trapping and anabats) and bird utilisation surveys (BUS).
- Four ecologists undertook a five-day field survey from 12 – 16 February 2024, with a total 200 person-hours on the ground. The field survey focused on vegetation assessments, habitat quality assessments, targeted fauna surveys (camera trapping, anabats, koala scat and sign searches, spotlighting and call playback) and BUS.
- Four ecologists undertook a five-day field survey from 6 – 10 May 2024, with a total 200 person-hours on the ground. The field survey focused on vegetation assessments, habitat quality assessments, targeted fauna surveys (spotlighting and call playback) and BUS.
- Two ecologists undertook a five-day field survey from 29 July – 2 August 2024, with a total 200 person-hours on the ground. The field survey focused on BUS.
- Four ecologists undertook a six-day field survey from 2 – 7 December 2024, with a total 200 person-hours on the ground. The field survey focused on targeted fauna surveys (harp trapping) and BUS.
- Four ecologists undertook a six-day field survey from 24 – 1 February to March 2025, with a total 200 person-hours on the ground. The field survey focused on targeted fauna surveys (harp trapping) and BUS.

Flora

The MNES SIA Report PMST Search (refer to Att. A, Part 5, App. A) indicated the possible occurrence of 11 EPBC Act listed threatened flora species within the Study Area. Through analysis of habitat suitability based on field data and historical records in database searches this list was refined down to two potential flora species. Their presence is not able to be ruled out due to the presence of suitable habitat within the Study Area, however, these species were not observed during the field survey program.

- There is potential habitat for Tara wattle (*Acacia lauta*) within buloke open forest to woodland, ironbark woodland on hilly terrain and ironbark and smooth-barked apple open forest to woodland. There is 6,418.2 ha of habitat within the Study Area.
- There is potential habitat for Prostanthera sp. Dunmore (D.M. Gordon 8A) within ironbark woodland on hilly terrain and ironbark and smooth-barked apple open forest to woodland. There is 5,362.2 ha of habitat within the Study Area.

Fauna

The MNES SIA Report PMST Search (refer to Att. A, Part 5, App. A) indicated the possible occurrence of 34 EPBC Act listed threatened fauna species within the Study Area. Based on field surveys and a likelihood of occurrence assessment (Att. A, Part 5, App. C), four EPBC Act listed threatened fauna species, are considered known or likely to occur:

- Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) – (refer to Att. A, Part 3, Section 5.2.3.4, pp. 175)
- Diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*) - (refer to Att. A, Part 3, Section 5.2.3.2, pp. 162)
- Glossy black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*) – (refer to Att. A, Part 3, Section 5.2.3.1, pp. 148)
- White-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) – (refer to Att. A, Part 3, Section 5.2.3.3, pp. 188)

Five additional EPBC Act listed fauna species are considered to have the potential to occur, due to the presence of general habitat for these species observed within the Study Area and recent records in the locality (within a 10km radius of the Study Area), including:

- Greater glider (southern and central) (*Petauroides Volans*), listed as Endangered under the EPBC Act;
- yellow-bellied glider (south-eastern) (*Petaurus australis australis*), listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act;
- Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*), listed as Vulnerable and Migratory under the EPBC Act;
- Southern whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*) listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act;
- Squatter Pigeon (southern) (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act.

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

The Study Area is located in the Brigalow Belt South bioregion as defined by the Interim Biographic Regionalisation for Australia Framework, within the Border Rivers, Balonne-Condamine and Moonie catchments. The Study Area has been classified into ten broad habitat types, defined based on vegetation community type and structure. These habitat types have then been considered as respective foraging, breeding, roosting, denning, dispersal and movement functions for listed threatened and/or migratory species that are known, likely or have the potential to occur within the Study Area. Ground-truthed habitat mapping has been informed by these ten habitat types, and subsequently used to identify areas of habitat for listed threatened species (refer to Att. A, Part 2, Section 5.1.2, Table 5-3, pp. 89).

The mapped vegetation communities and broad habitat types are:

- Cleared land;
- Agricultural land with sparse eucalypts or other paddock trees;
- Riparian open forests to woodland primarily on sandplains or depositional plains;
- Ironbark open forests to woodland on hilly terrain;
- Ironbark and smooth-barked apple open forests to woodland with *Callitris* and/or *Allocasuarina* understory
- Poplar box grassy open woodland;
- Gum-topped box open forests to woodland;
- Buloke and poplar box open forests to woodland with varied shrubby understory
- Brigalow sometimes with belah open forests to woodlands;
- Permanent waterbodies.

The vegetation in the Study Area is mostly in moderate to low condition, particularly those heavily associated with the historical clearing and grazing land use (such as grassland), with signs of degradation due to cattle grazing, erosion and the presence of introduced flora species.

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

There are no Commonwealth Heritage Places, National Heritage Places or World Heritage Properties located within the Study Area. There are also no heritage places listed on the Queensland Heritage Register or within Toowoomba Regional Council Planning Scheme or Western Downs Regional Council Planning Scheme, within the Study Area.

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

The Study Area contains known registered Aboriginal cultural heritage sites, located adjacent to the existing electricity transmission line which traverses the Study Area. Some early cultural heritage survey activities have already been completed, and further surveys are proposed, in consultation with Traditional Owners via the BNTAC. An Early Works Agreement with BNTAC is in place and a CHMP is currently in preparation. There is the potential for additional Aboriginal cultural heritage sites to be identified through the survey process. This includes places of both tangible and intangible values of particular significance to the Traditional Owners.

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

The Study Area is primarily located in the Border Rivers drainage basin, with small areas in the north of the Study Area located in the Moonie and Balonne-Condamine drainage basin.

The majority of watercourses that will be impacted by the Proposed Action are low order and generally of low quality and impacted by cattle. There are no wetlands of international importance within the Study Area.

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

| EPBC Act section | Controlling provision | Impacted | Reviewed |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| S12 | World Heritage | No | Yes |
| S15B | National Heritage | No | Yes |
| S16 | Ramsar Wetland | No | Yes |
| S18 | Threatened Species and Ecological Communities | Yes | Yes |
| S20 | Migratory Species | Yes | Yes |
| S21 | Nuclear | No | Yes |
| S23 | Commonwealth Marine Area | No | Yes |
| S24B | Great Barrier Reef | No | Yes |
| S24D | Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas | No | Yes |
| S26 | Commonwealth Land | No | Yes |
| S27B | Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas | No | Yes |
| S28 | Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency | No | Yes |

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.1.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

There are no World Heritage Areas within or in proximity to the Study Area.

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.2.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

There are no National Heritage places within or in proximity to the Study Area.

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

| Direct impact | Indirect impact | Ramsar wetland |
|----------------------|------------------------|---|
| No | No | Banrock Station Wetland Complex |
| No | No | Narran Lake Nature Reserve |
| No | No | Riverland |
| No | No | The Coorong, and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Wetland |

4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.3.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

No wetlands of international importance are present within or in proximity to the Study Area. The following four wetlands of international importance are identified in the MNES SIA Report, however these are all located several hundreds of kilometres from the Study Area:

- Riverland;
- Banrock Station Wetland Complex;
- The Coorong, and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Wetland; and
- Narran Lake Nature Reserve.

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

| Direct impact | Indirect impact | Species | Common name |
|---------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Yes | No | <i>Acacia lauta</i> | Tara Wattle |
| No | No | <i>Adclarkia cameroni</i> | Brigalow Woodland Snail |
| No | No | <i>Adclarkia dulacca</i> | Dulacca Woodland Snail |
| No | No | <i>Anomalopus mackayi</i> | Five-clawed Worm-skink, Long-legged Worm-skink |
| No | No | <i>Anthochaera phrygia</i> | Regent Honeyeater |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i> | Southern Whiteface |
| No | No | <i>Cadellia pentastylis</i> | Ooline |
| No | No | <i>Calidris acuminata</i> | Sharp-tailed Sandpiper |
| No | No | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | Curlew Sandpiper |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i> | South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo |
| No | No | <i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i> | Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat |
| No | No | <i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i> | Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern) |
| No | No | <i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i> | Northern Quoll, Digul [Gogo-Yimidir], Wijingadda [Dambimangari], Wiminji [Martu] |
| No | No | <i>Delma torquata</i> | Adorned Delma, Collared Delma |
| No | No | <i>Dichanthium setosum</i> | bluegrass |
| No | No | <i>Egernia rugosa</i> | Yakka Skink |
| No | No | <i>Erythroriorchis radiatus</i> | Red Goshawk |
| No | No | <i>Falco hypoleucos</i> | Grey Falcon |
| No | No | <i>Furina dunmalli</i> | Dunmall's Snake |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> | Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i> | Squatter Pigeon (southern) |

| Direct impact | Indirect impact | Species | Common name |
|----------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| No | No | <i>Grantiella picta</i> | Painted Honeyeater |
| No | No | <i>Hemiaspis damelii</i> | Grey Snake |
| No | Yes | <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i> | White-throated Needle-tail |
| No | No | <i>Homopholis belsonii</i> | Belson's Panic |
| No | No | <i>Lathamus discolor</i> | Swift Parrot |
| No | No | <i>Lepidium monoplocoides</i> | Winged Pepper-cress |
| No | No | <i>Leuzea australis</i> | Austral Cornflower, Native Thistle |
| No | No | <i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i> | Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Petauroides volans</i> | Greater Glider (southern and central) |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Petaurus australis australis</i> | Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern) |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT) | Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) |
| No | No | <i>Picris evae</i> | Hawkweed |
| Yes | No | <i>Prostanthera</i> sp. Dunmore (D.M.Gordon 8A) | |
| No | No | <i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i> | Grey-headed Flying-fox |
| No | No | <i>Rostratula australis</i> | Australian Painted Snipe |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Stagonopleura guttata</i> | Diamond Firetail |
| No | No | <i>Thesium australe</i> | Austral Toadflax, Toadflax |
| No | No | <i>Turnix melanogaster</i> | Black-breasted Button-quail |
| No | No | <i>Vincetoxicum forsteri</i> | |

Ecological communities

| Direct impact | Indirect impact | Ecological community |
|----------------------|------------------------|--|
| Yes | Yes | Brigalow (<i>Acacia harpophylla</i> dominant and co-dominant) |

| Direct impact | Indirect impact | Ecological community |
|----------------------|------------------------|--|
| No | No | Coolibah - Black Box Woodlands of the Darling Riverine Plains and the Brigalow Belt South Bioregions |
| Yes | Yes | Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains |
| No | No | Weeping Myall Woodlands |

4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.4.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

In general, potential impacts from the construction phase relate to habitat loss and habitat disturbance. Operational impacts are largely limited to possible bird and bat collisions with operational WTGs. Decommissioning phase impacts are similar to those that might occur during the construction phase but likely to be of a much lower magnitude as there is no additional vegetation clearing anticipated during the decommissioning phase.

The Disturbance Footprint (maximum area to be impacted) is 1,438.0 ha, or 7% of the Project Area. Additionally, the Proposed Access Route Impact Area is expected to be up to 1.9 ha. The following Threatened Species and Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) have the potential to be subject to direct and/or indirect impacts from the Proposed Action. The potentially impacted areas noted below may overlap. Direct impacts to MNES are considered in the MNES SIA Report (refer to Att. A, Part 4, Section 6.4, Table 6-1, pp. 220).

Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla* dominant and co-dominant)

0.3 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint.

The area of habitat to be disturbed is up to 0.3 ha, which represents 0.5% of the total amount of TEC in the Project Area.

Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains

The area of habitat to be disturbed associated with the Proposed Action is up to 0.2 ha, which represents 0.1% of the total TEC in the Study Area.

0.1 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint.

0.1 ha of direct disturbance within the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Tara wattle (*Acacia lauta*)

479 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.1 ha of direct disturbance within the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Tara wattle is considered potentially to occur within the Study Area, as the species has not previously been recorded and was not recorded during field surveys. The Study Area contains 6,608.6 ha of potential Tara wattle habitat, of which 479.1 ha (being 7.2%) will be impacted by the Proposed Action.

***Prostanthera* sp. Dunmore (D.M. Gordon 8A)**

426.2 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.1 ha of direct disturbance within the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Prostanthera sp. Dunmore is considered having the potential to occur within the Study Area, as the species has not previously been recorded and was not recorded during field surveys. The Study Area contains 5,547.8 ha of potential *Prostanthera* sp. Dunmore habitat, of which 426.3 ha (being 7.7%) will be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*)

433.3 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.8 ha of direct disturbance within the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Diamond firetail is known to occur within the Study Area, based on a desktop record. The species was not recorded during the field surveys. The Study Area contains 8,308.5 ha of diamond firetail habitat, of which 434.1 ha (being 5.2% of the total habitat) will be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*)

39.1 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.1 ha of direct disturbance within the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Glossy black-cockatoo (south-eastern) is known to occur within the Study Area due to direct sightings during field surveys. The Study Area contains 1,292.8 ha of foraging and dispersal habitat for the species; however, does not contain breeding habitat. A total of 39.2 ha (being 3% of total habitat) will be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*)

0.4 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.0 ha of direct disturbance in the Proposed Access Route Area.

Latham's snipe has the potential to occur within the Study Area and potential habitat for the species has been mapped, totalling 65.7 ha. A total of 0.4 ha (being 0.6% of total habitat) will be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Southern whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*)

3.6 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.1 ha of direct disturbance in the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Southern whiteface has the potential to occur within the Study Area and potential habitat for the species has been mapped, at 875.9 ha across the Study Area, of which 3.7 ha will be impacted by the Proposed Action.

Squatter pigeon (southern) (*Geophaps scripta scripta*)

290.7 ha of disturbance to breeding habitat and 245.9 ha of disturbance to foraging and dispersal habitat within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.1 ha of disturbance to breeding habitat and 0.8 ha of disturbance for foraging and dispersal habitat within the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Squatter pigeon (southern) has the potential to occur within the Study Area. The Study Area contains 3,561.8 ha of potential breeding habitat, and 5,445.6 ha of potential foraging and dispersal habitat, of which, 290.8 ha (being 8.2% of the total) and 246.7 ha (being 4.5%) respectively, will be cleared for the Proposed Action.

White-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)

Aerial only.

White-throated needletail has the potential to occur as an aerial visitor over the Study Area. The entirety of the Study Area is considered suitable for aerial foraging; however, does not contain roosting habitat.

Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*)

536.4 ha of disturbance to breeding and foraging habitat and 499.4 ha of disturbance to dispersal habitat in the Disturbance Footprint. 0.9 ha of disturbance to breeding and foraging habitat and 0.0 ha of disturbance to dispersal habitat in the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

The koala is known to occur within the Study Area due to indirect observations of scats. The Study Area contains 9,022.5 ha of breeding and foraging habitat, and 5,931.7 ha of dispersal habitat for the koala. Of this, a total of 537.3 ha of breeding and foraging habitat, and 499.4 ha of dispersal habitat will be permanently cleared for the Proposed Action.

Greater glider (southern and central) (*Petauroides volans*)

113.5 ha of disturbance to breeding/denning habitat, 260.6 ha of disturbance to foraging and dispersal habitat in the Disturbance Footprint. 0.8 ha of direct disturbance to breeding/denning habitat, 0.1 ha of disturbance to foraging and dispersal habitat in the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

The greater glider (southern and central) is considered having the potential to occur within the Study Area. The Study Area contains 3,063.9 ha of potential breeding and denning habitat, and 2,709.5 ha of potential foraging and dispersal habitat, of which, 114.3 ha (being 3.8% of the total) and 260.7 ha (being 9.6% of the total) respectively, will be cleared for the Proposed Action.

Yellow-bellied glider (south-eastern) (*Petaurus australis australis*)

113.5 ha of disturbance to breeding/denning habitat 260.6 ha of disturbance to foraging and dispersal habitat in the Disturbance Footprint. 0.8 ha of disturbance to breeding/denning habitat and 0.1 ha of disturbance to foraging and breeding habitat in the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

The yellow-bellied glider (south-eastern) is considered having the potential to occur within the Study Area. The Study Area contains 3,063.9 ha of potential breeding and denning habitat, and 2,709.5 ha of potential foraging and dispersal habitat, of which, 114.3 ha (being 3.8% of the total) and 260.7 ha (being 9.5% of the total) respectively, will be cleared for the Proposed Action.

Fork-tailed swift (*Apus pacificus*)

Aerial only.

Fork-tailed swift has the potential to occur as an aerial visitor over the Study Area. The entirety of the Study Area is considered suitable for aerial foraging; however, does not contain roosting habitat.

4.1.4.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact?

*

Yes

4.1.4.5 Describe why you consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

A detailed MNES significant impact assessment, in accordance with the EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, is documented in the MNES SIA Report (Att. A, Part 5, App F). This assessment determined that potential impacts to the following species are likely to be significant.

Diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*)

The Proposed Action will permanently impact 434.1 ha of potential habitat, being 5.2% of the total habitat within the Study Area. The Study Area does not support an important population of diamond firetail. However, the Proposed Action will:

- Impact habitat critical to the survival of the species; and
- Interfere with the recovery of the species (as clearing exceeds 200 ha of habitat).

Therefore, a significant impact to diamond firetail is likely to occur.

Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*)

The Proposed Action will permanently impact 537.3 ha of breeding and foraging habitat, and 499.4 ha of dispersal habitat. Clearing for the Proposed Action in koala habitat will:

- Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population;
- Reduce the area of occupancy for the species;
- Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species; and
- Interfere with the recovery of the species.

Therefore, the Proposed Action is likely to result in a significant impact on the koala.

Greater glider (southern and central) (*Petauroides volans*)

The Proposed Action will permanently impact 114.3 ha of breeding/denning habitat (being 3.8% of the total available in the Study Area) and 260.7 ha foraging and dispersal habitat (being 9.6% of the total available in the Study Area). Clearing for the Proposed Action in greater glider (southern and central) habitat will:

- Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species; and
- Interfere with the recovery of the species.

Therefore, the Proposed Action is likely to result in a significant impact on the greater glider (southern and central).

4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

Yes

4.1.4.8 Please elaborate why you think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

As outlined above, a detailed MNES significant impact assessment (refer to Att. A, Part 5, App F) has determined that potential impacts to the following species are likely to be significant:

- Diamond firetail;
- Koala; and
- Greater glider (southern and central).

4.1.4.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Avoidance

The Disturbance Footprint has been developed with consideration given to engineering issues, including maximum safe slope for workplace health and safety, operational requirements, landholder requirements, minimising environmental disturbance and ongoing site management requirements (bushfire setbacks). The Proponent has considered both current and near future WTG models through design to minimise the likelihood for any need to major adjustments to the WTG layout prior to construction. The Proposed Action layout and design will undergo significant further refinement through the detailed design stage, so the Disturbance Footprint represents the current best estimate of the maximum (worst-case) direct impact area.

The key component of the vegetation management strategy is avoidance through layout design. The avoidance strategy will occur in two phases. The first design phase is based on avoidance and/or minimisation of vegetation and potential habitat mapped as a result of the field surveys conducted, and subsequent constraints identified. The second design phase will involve pre-clearance surveys which includes on the ground micro-siting at each location proposed for infrastructure (such as WTGs). The pre-clearance surveys will assess the localised environmental values, including threatened species breeding habitat and protected plants to determine if micro-siting can be used to further avoid key values where detailed engineering permits.

Several more avoidance measures have been implemented, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Avoidance of woodland patches by locating infrastructure outside of these areas where possible;
- Clearly delineate approved vegetation clearance areas/ work zones to prevent over-clearing;

Mitigation

Potential impacts as a result of proposed activities will be managed in a manner consistent with the management approaches for wind farm activities and where relevant, additional measures will be implemented.

At each proposed infrastructure location, following detailed design and prior to construction, detailed site specific pre-clearance surveys will be conducted to inform micro-siting and further avoidance of ecological values as part of the final design of the Proposed Action. Impact and disturbance mitigation will follow a two-stage process.

The first element of impact mitigation will be determining turbine design and layout based on avoidance of vegetation and potential habitat mapped, as a result of the field investigation conducted. This will include minimising the impact to regulated vegetation and threatened species habitat. Noting that this process has already been undertaken as part of the design phase completed to date, and where possible disturbance will be reduced as part of the future detailed design phase.

The second part of the impact mitigation effort will involve on the ground micro-siting at each location proposed for infrastructure. Such micro-siting will involve on the ground assessments of the potential infrastructure locations to determine if any ecological values, such as threatened species habitat that occur in that area will influence re-siting of infrastructure.

Loss of existing native vegetation

- Areas of remanent and regrowth vegetation to be avoided at the design and micro-siting stages, where practicable;
- Areas of threatened flora and fauna habitat will be avoided at design and micro-siting stages, where practicable;
- A Vegetation Management Plan will be developed and implemented to ensure that clearing is undertaken in accordance with legislative standards and requirements; and
- Progressive restoration of access corridors once construction has been completed will occur to reduce impacts.

Weed and Pest Control

- A Biosecurity Plan will be developed and implemented for the Proposed Action. This will include measures such as vehicle clean downs, weed hygiene declaration and obligations to stick to access tracks throughout the Study Area;
- Weed management and control methods will depend upon the location, weed species identified, the degree of the infestation, relevant landholder agreement or conduct and compensation agreements provisions, and local, state and national regulatory requirements;
- Imported material able to transport weed and seed will require a weed hygiene declaration and be assessed to ensure they are free of contamination, disease and invasive weeds; and
- Weeds of National Significance (WONS) and invasive species will be identified and monitored in the Study Area. Appropriate weed monitoring will occur to ensure new weed species are identified, recorded and managed appropriately.

Mortality or Injury to Native Fauna

- A Bird and Bat Management Plan will be developed in order to implement impact mitigation measures for the Proposed Action;
- A Vegetation and Fauna Management Plan will be developed in order to implement impact mitigation measures for the Proposed Action;
- During vegetation clearing activities fauna management will be implemented that includes pre-clearance surveys, fauna spotter-catcher supervision and methods to reduce impacts as set out in a Fauna Management Plan;
- No driving will occur in unauthorised areas, and in other areas will be carried out at safe speeds appropriate for the road conditions;
- Injured, sick or dead fauna will be recorded and reported during construction. This can be carried out by a fauna spotter-catcher;
- Impacts from turbine collision to bats and birds will be monitored in accordance with the Bird and Bat Management Plan;
- Areas of bird habitat including known nests will be avoided in the design and then further avoided when micro-siting occurs, where practicable
- WTGs have been sited away from key bird and bat habitats (waterways and drainage lines) where practicable. Micro-siting will also aim to avoid large remnant trees where possible, and any large nests identified on site.

Impacts from Turbine Collision to Birds and Bats

- A Bird and Bat Management Plan will be developed in order to implement impact mitigation measures for the Proposed Action and
- Areas of bird habitat including known nests will be avoided in the design and then further avoided when micro-siting occurs, where practicable.

The avoidance, management and mitigation measures are further described in Att. A, Part 4, Section 7, pp. 227. Preliminary management plans have been provided in Att. G and Att. H.

4.1.4.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

Where significant impacts on MNES cannot be avoided, the Proponent is committed to offsetting these impacts. An Offset Management Strategy will be prepared, that specifically outlines the requirements to deliver and manage appropriate land-based offsets, in accordance with the conditions of approvals for the Proposed Action.

The estimated impact areas for the species likely to be significantly impacted by the Proposed Action are detailed in Att. A, Part 4, Section 10, Table 10-1, pp. 262 and App. F. The Disturbance Footprint represents the extent of land within the Project Area that may be directly impacted during the life of the Proposed Action. The siting and design will be further refined during the detailed engineering design phase, to reduce impacts where possible. There is an incentive to minimise the actual impact area in order to reduce the offset requirements. Offset requirements for these species will be calculated in accordance with the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy.

Once the offset area(s) has been identified, and detailed surveys undertaken to confirm species habitat and habitat quality, an Offset Management Plan will be prepared for the implementation and ongoing management of the selected offset area(s).

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

| Direct impact | Indirect impact | Species | Common name |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No | No | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> | Common Sandpiper |
| No | Yes | <i>Apus pacificus</i> | Fork-tailed Swift |
| No | No | <i>Calidris acuminata</i> | Sharp-tailed Sandpiper |
| No | No | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | Curlew Sandpiper |
| No | No | <i>Calidris melanotos</i> | Pectoral Sandpiper |
| No | No | <i>Cuculus optatus</i> | Oriental Cuckoo, Horsfield's Cuckoo |
| Yes | Yes | <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> | Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe |
| No | Yes | <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i> | White-throated Needletail |
| No | No | <i>Motacilla flava</i> | Yellow Wagtail |

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.5.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

In general, potential impacts from the construction phase relate to habitat loss and disturbance. Operational impacts are largely limited to possible bird and bat collisions with operational WTGs. Decommissioning phase impacts are similar to those that might occur during the construction phase but likely to be of much lower magnitude as there is no additional vegetation clearing during the decommissioning phase.

Direct impacts to MNES will be habitat loss and degradation to native vegetation that is regulated vegetation or habitat. Direct disturbance to MNES is considered in the MNES SIA Report (Att. A, Part 4, Section 6.4, Table 6-1, pp. 220).

As per the MNES SIA Report (Att. A, Part 3, Section 5.2.4, pp. 216), there will be impact to three migratory species, Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*), fork-tailed swift (*Apus pacificus*) and white-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*).

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*)

0.4 ha of direct disturbance within the Disturbance Footprint. 0.0 ha of disturbance within the Proposed Access Route Impact Area.

Latham's snipe has the potential to occur within the Study Area and potential habitat for the species has been mapped, totalling 65.7 ha.

White-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)

Aerial only.

White-throated needletail has the potential to occur as an aerial visitor over the Study Area. The entirety of the Study Area is considered suitable for aerial foraging; however, does not contain roosting habitat.

Fork-tailed swift (*Apus pacificus*)

Aerial only.

It is likely this species would only occur as an aerial flyover visitor to the Study Area, so habitat has not been mapped for this species in the Study Area.

4.1.5.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact?

*

No

4.1.5.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

A full MNES Significant Impact Assessment has been undertaken as part of the MNES SIA Report (Att. A, Part 5, App F). This assessment has demonstrated that potential impacts to the following species are unlikely to be significant.

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*)

Latham's snipe has the potential to occur within the Study Area and potential habitat for the species has been mapped, totalling 65.7 ha. The Study Area does not support an important population of Latham's snipe. Additionally, habitat for the species will not be impacted by the Proposed Action, and therefore, a significant impact is unlikely to occur.

White-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)

White-throated needletail has the potential to occur as an aerial visitor over the Study Area. The entirety of the Study Area is considered suitable for aerial foraging; however, does not contain roosting habitat. The Study Area does not support an important population of white-throated needletail, and as the species is almost exclusively aerial, the Proposed Action is unlikely to result in a significant impact on white-throated needletail.

Fork-tailed swift (*Apus pacificus*)

Fork-tailed swift has the potential to occur as an aerial visitor over the Study Area. The entirety of the Study Area is considered suitable for aerial foraging; however, does not contain roosting habitat. An ecologically significant proportion of the population for fork-tailed swift is 100 individuals (0.1% as nationally important) (DoE, 2015). As the species has not been recorded within or over the Study Area previously, the Study Area does not contain an ecologically significant proportion of the population.

The Proposed Action is unlikely to result in a significant impact on fork-tailed swift.

4.1.5.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.5.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action.

*

Impacts to migratory species, as identified above and in Att. A, Part 4, Section 9.1, Table 9-1, pp. 240, are unlikely to be significant.

4.1.5.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

The following avoidance and mitigation measures will be considered in managing the impact from the Proposed Action.

- Injured, sick or dead fauna will be recorded and reported during construction. This will be carried out by a fauna spotter-catcher;
- Impacts from turbine collision to bats and birds will be monitored;
- Areas of bird habitat including known nests will be avoided in the design and then further avoided when micro-siting occurs, where practicable;
- Development of a Bird and Bat Management Plan that considers the impacts that may occur to birds and mitigation measures to address these; and
- WTGs have been sited away from key bird and bat habitats (waterways and drainage lines) where practicable. Micro-siting will also aim to avoid large remnant trees where possible, and any large nests identified on site.

Refer to Att. A, Part 4, Section 7, Table 7-2, pp. 229 for the full details on management and mitigation measures for the Proposed Action. A draft Bird and Bat Management Plan has been provided in Att. H.

4.1.5.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

Any potential significant impacts, identified within the assessment phase, will be subject to offsets in accordance with the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy.

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Proposed Action is not a nuclear action.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

There are no Commonwealth marine areas in proximity to the Study Area.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is not in proximity to the Study Area.

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Proposed Action does not involve unconventional gas development or large coal mining development.

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

There is no Commonwealth land within or in proximity to the Study Area.

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Proposed Action will not impact any Commonwealth heritage places overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

No

4.3.8 Describe why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible. *

Alternatives to the Proposed Action have not been provided. The Proponent selected the Project Area through a site scouting process that identified the area as having a feasible wind resource based on mesoscale wind mapping combined with LIDAR and meteorological mast monitoring along with a generally lesser quality of environmentally significant areas than other potential prospect areas.

The lots comprising the Project Area are ideal large land parcels with low dwelling density leading to excellent offsets to neighbours and a minimal number of dwellings surrounding the Proposed Action compared to industry averages.

The current land use of cattle grazing is highly compatible with a wind farm, with minimal impact on cattle farming operations and the potential for any infrastructure installed for the Proposed Action to be utilised during the operational phase for continued agricultural activities.

The area has been analysed for constructability and has been determined to be a constructable site.

The Proposed Action design has been refined on several occasions through an iterative process taking into account environmental, wind resource, topographic, hydrology, cultural heritage, constructability, land use, amenity and engineering considerations. The design refinement process focused on the avoidance and minimisation of environmental impacts through the various stages of layout planning. The current Disturbance Footprint was determined from the constraints identified via the preliminary impact assessments.

Avoidance measures have been implemented to reduce direct and indirect impacts to listed and native species, including micro-siting infrastructure locations into areas that provide limited habitat. This has also included the siting of infrastructure in areas that are outside of TEC habitat within the Study Area.

Further to this, the Proposed Action will go towards achieving Queensland's renewable energy targets, currently legislated under the Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024 (Qld), to the extent they remain in effect, as well as the national targets under the Climate Change Act 2022 (Cth) to reduce Australia's net greenhouse gas emissions to 43% below 2005 levels by 2030 and to zero by 2050.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 1 - MNES SIA Report Sections 1 - 4.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 14/03/2025 | No | High |
| #2. | Document | Attach A Part 2 - MNES SIA Report Section 5a.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 14/03/2025 | No | High |
| #3. | Document | Attach A Part 3 - MNES SIA Report Section 5b.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 14/03/2025 | No | High |
| #4. | Document | Attach A Part 4- MNES SIA Report Section 6 - 13.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 14/03/2025 | No | High |
| #5. | Document | Attach A Part 5 - MNES SIA Report - Appendices .pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 14/03/2025 | No | High |

1.2.6 Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents that are relevant to the proposed action

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 1 - MNES SIA Report Sections 1 - 4.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach F - Cattle Creek Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan v4.pdf Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan | 01/03/2025 | | High |

1.3.2.17 (Person proposing to take the action) Proposer's history of responsible environmental management

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach B-RWE Biodiversity Policy_Dec22.pdf RWE Biodiversity Policy | 01/12/2022 | | High |
| #2. | Document | | | | |

Attach C-RWE Environmental
Protection Directive_Jan24.pdf
RWE Environmental Protection Policy

08/01/2024

High

1.3.2.18 (Person proposing to take the action) If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|----------|--|------------|-------------|------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach B-RWE Biodiversity Policy_Dec22.pdf RWE Biodiversity Policy | 30/11/2022 | | High |
| #2. | Document | Attach C-RWE Environmental Protection Directive_Jan24.pdf RWE Environmental Protection Policy | 07/01/2024 | | High |
| #3. | Document | Attach D-TNFD Early Adopters Press Release_Jan24.pdf TNFD Early Adopters Press Release | 16/01/2024 | | High |
| #4. | Document | Attach E - RWE 2023 Annual Report.pdf RWE 2023 Annual Report | | | High |

2.2.5 Tenure of the action area relevant to the project area

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|----------|---|------------|-------------|------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 1 - MNES SIA Report Sections 1 - 4.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

3.1.1 Current condition of the project area's environment

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|----------|---|------------|-------------|------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 2 - MNES SIA Report Section 5a.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

3.1.2 Existing or proposed uses for the project area

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|----------|---|------------|-------------|------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 1 - MNES SIA Report Sections 1 - 4.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|--|------|------|------|-------------|------------|
|--|------|------|------|-------------|------------|

| | | | | |
|-----|----------|---|------------|------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 1 - MNES SIA Report Sections 1 - 4.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |
| #2. | Document | Attach A Part 3 - MNES SIA Report Section 5b.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |
| #3. | Document | Attach A Part 5 - MNES SIA Report - Appendices .pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity Confidence |
|-----|----------|---|------------|------------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 2 - MNES SIA Report Section 5a.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |

4.1.4.2 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity Confidence |
|-----|----------|---|------------|------------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 4- MNES SIA ReportSection 6 - 13.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |

4.1.4.5 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why you consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity Confidence |
|-----|----------|--|------------|------------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 5 - MNES SIA Report - Appendices .pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |

4.1.4.8 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why you think your proposed action is a controlled action

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity Confidence |
|-----|----------|--|------------|------------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 5 - MNES SIA Report - Appendices .pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |

4.1.4.10 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 4- MNES SIA ReportSection 6 - 13.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |
| #2. | Document | Attach G - DRAFT BBMP.pdf Draft Bird and Bat Management Plan | 14/03/2025 | | High |
| #3. | Document | Attach H - DRAFT VFMP.pdf Draft Vegetation and Fauna Management Plan | 14/03/2025 | | High |

4.1.4.11 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Proposed offsets relevant to avoidance or mitigation measures

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 4- MNES SIA ReportSection 6 - 13.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

4.1.5.2 (Migratory Species) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 3 - MNES SIA Report Section 5b.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |
| #2. | Document | Attach A Part 4- MNES SIA ReportSection 6 - 13.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

4.1.5.6 (Migratory Species) Why you do not consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|--|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 5 - MNES SIA Report - Appendices .pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

4.1.5.9 (Migratory Species) Why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity | Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 4- MNES SIA ReportSection 6 - 13.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | | High |

4.1.5.10 (Migratory Species) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

| | Type | Name | Date | Sensitivity Confidence |
|-----|-------------|---|-------------|-------------------------------|
| #1. | Document | Attach A Part 4- MNES SIA ReportSection 6 - 13.pdf MNES Significant Impact Assessment Report | 13/03/2025 | High |
| #2. | Document | Attach G - DRAFT BBMP.pdf Draft Bird and Bat Management Plan | 13/03/2025 | High |

5.2 Declarations

✔ Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| ABN/ACN | 12002773248 |
| Organisation name | ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA PTY LIMITED |
| Organisation address | Level 14, 207 Kent Street 2000 NSW |
| Representative's name | Matt Davis |
| Representative's job title | Principal Ecologist |
| Phone | 0421 879 950 |
| Email | matt.davis@erm.com |
| Address | Level 14, 207 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000 |

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

By checking this box, I, **Matt Davis of ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA PTY LIMITED**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

✔ Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| ABN/ACN | 681745960 |
| Organisation name | RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD |
| Organisation address | Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 VIC |
| Representative's name | Peter Veljkovic |

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Representative's job title | Chief Development Officer |
| Phone | 0396002698 |
| Email | cattlecreekwindfarm@rwe.com |
| Address | Suite 5, Level 9, 350 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 |

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

I, **Peter Veljkovic of RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *

I, **Peter Veljkovic of RWE CATTLE CREEK ONSHORE WIND PTY LTD**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. *