Taronga Tin Project

Application Number: **03003** Commencement Date: **18/07/2025** Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Taronga Tin Project

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Mining

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Other

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

31/07/2026

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/12/2040

1.2 Proposed Action details

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

Taronga Mines Pty Ltd (Taronga Mines) proposes to develop Taronga Tin Project (“the Project”) that would extract and process tin ore to produce a saleable tin concentrate. All mining, processing and associated infrastructure for the Project would be largely situated within the Mine Site that would be located approximately 7.5 kilometres (km) northwest of Emmaville in northern NSW. The proposed Mine Site and the Mine Camp, an ancillary Project component separate to the Mine Site are hereafter collectively referred to as the "Project Site". The Project Site would be situated within the Glen Innes Severn Local Government Area (LGA). Both sites are on land zoned RU1 – Primary Production under the Glen Innes Severn Local Environment Plan 2012.

The Project Site is approximately 722 ha in size, comprising:

- Approximately 708ha at the Mine Site;
- Approximately 5ha at the Mine Camp
- 9 ha of cleared land associated with the operating Mine Site.

The Proposed action would take place at the Mine Site, involving an area of approximately 708ha within which all mining, processing and despatch of produced concentrate would occur. Ancillary infrastructure necessary to support mining operations, such as maintenance facilities, onsite power generation, administration, magazine, internal roads, water management works and suitably designed landforms for the storage of waste rock and processing residues would also be situated within the Mine Site.

The Proposed action involves extraction of tin ore using conventional drill, blast, load and haul from two open cut pits. Tin deposit comprises two separate zones along an approximately 2.6 km long strike and up to 260m wide. The Proposed action involves the following key components:

- Total Material Extracted (Project life) of 80.3 Mt2 comprising:
    - 39.7 Mt of tin ore;
    - 40.5 Mt of waste rock.
- Maximum Extraction Rate of up to 10 Mt per annum comprising:
    - Up to 5.1 Mt per annum of tin ore; and
    - Up to 5.8 Mt of waste rock per annum
- Employment of up to 150 personnel during site establishment & construction stage and approximately 129 personnel during operations.
- The Project would operate 24 hours, 7 days per week.
- The Project-life (including rehabilitation) would be up to approximately 20 years and comprise:
    - A site establishment and construction period of approximately 2 years.
    - A mining operations period of up to 10 years;
    - A 2-year period for decommissioning, landform establishment and revegetation period following the cessation of mining operations; and
    - An approximately 7 year post-mining rehabilitation monitoring period

The areas of the Project Site subject to the Proposed action (Disturbance footprint) includes:

- Approximately 315 ha of native vegetation (noting that the proposed disturbance footprint of 318.6ha includes approximately 3.4ha of cleared, Category 1 land that has been classed in accordance with NSW Local Land Services Act 2013).

The Proposed action will have the following direct impacts on the environment in the Disturbance footprint:

- loss of native vegetation (vegetation clearing) and subsequent loss of fauna habitat and threatened species habitat and individuals;
- progressive demolition/excavation via mining in the Disturbance footprint (over a 10 year period);
- the impact of several first and one second order stream through construction and installation of temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control measures, including sediment basins, clean

water diversion structures and dirty water collection drains.

The Proposed action may have indirect impacts on the retained environment adjacent to the Disturbance footprint:

- Erosion and sedimentation;
- Weed introduction and spread;
- Potential inadvertent disturbance of retained habitats;
- Removal of habitat resources for threatened fauna;
- Increased noise, vibration, light and dust levels resulting in disturbance of fauna species, and consequent abandonment of habitat, or changes in behaviour (including breeding behaviour).

The following key mitigation strategies have been incorporated into the design of the Project to avoid or minimise the impacts of the Proposed action:

- The Mine Site layout has considered and incorporated all feasible design alternatives to preserve existing local amenity (i.e. noise, air quality and visibility) to the extent practical;
- Processing operations have been configured to preserve existing local amenity, including limiting primary, secondary and tertiary crushing to daylight hours;
- The Mine Site layout has considered and incorporated all feasible design alternatives to avoid and minimise environmental impacts to the extent practical;
- The Project's footprint has been minimised to the extent practicable to reduce disturbance and avoid unnecessary biodiversity impact;
- The Project would establish an onsite Biodiversity Offset Area through a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA) to preserve, in perpetuity, adjacent Company owned land for the purpose of nature conservation.

Mitigation measures to reduce residual potential impacts on EPBC Act listed matters are proposed, including a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) for the Proposed action in accordance with the relevant NSW and Commonwealth legislation and/or policies. All works would be undertaken in accordance with general mitigation measures to be identified in a construction environment management plan (CEMP). Prior to construction, a BMP, forming part of the CEMP, will be prepared and will include the construction management measures proposed. Any residual impacts would be compensated through implementation of the NSW biodiversity offset scheme.

Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report 2025.

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? *

Commonwealth Legislation:

- **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)**

The EPBC Act applies to actions that have the potential to significantly impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) protected under the Act. MNES occurring within or adjacent to the study area include listed threatened species, ecological communities and migratory species. Under the EPBC Act, an action that may have a significant impact on a MNES is a 'controlled action' and can only proceed with the approval of the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment. An action that may potentially have a significant impact on a MNES is referred to the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for determination as to whether or not it is a controlled action. If deemed a controlled action the project is assessed under the EPBC Act, and a decision made as to whether or not to grant approval.

The Proposed action has been referred (i.e. this referral) to the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment for potentially significant impacts upon MNES.

NSW Legislation:

- **Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979**
  - A mining lease issued under Part 5 of the *Mining Act 1992* to permit mining of minerals.

The Project is considered State Significant Development (SSD) as the estimated $214M capital investment value exceeds the $30M threshold identified in Schedule 1, Clause 5(1c) of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021* (Planning Systems SEPP). Therefore, the Project requires an application for development consent under Division 4.7 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). The application will be assessed by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) with the consent authority being the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces (or their delegate). An SSD application for the Proposed action is to be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Application Area is situated on land that is zoned either RU1 (Primary Production), C3 (Environmental Management) (associated with roads) or RU5 (Village) (associated with roads) under the *Glen Innes Severn Local Environmental Plan 2012* (Glen Innes Severn LEP). The Glen Innes Severn LEP identifies that open cut mining is permissible with consent within Zone RU1. If required, activities such as road upgrades within C3 and RU5 zoned lands are also permissible under the Glen Innes Severn LEP.

Section 4.42 of the EP&A Act identifies a range of approvals that must be applied consistently to any SSD consent granted. The following approvals will be required for the Project and are covered by this requirement:

- An Environment Protection Licence under Chapter 3 the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act) to permit mining for minerals as the Project would exceed the 4 ha disturbance threshold under Clause 29(2) of Schedule 1 of the POEO Act.
- A consent issued under Section 138 of the *Roads Act 1993* by:
- Transport for NSW for works within the Wellington Vale Road reserve (if required); and
- Glen Innes Severn Council for works within Council controlled road reserves (where required).
- **Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016**

To accompany the EIS, a detailed assessment of the biodiversity values and the likely biodiversity impacts of the Proposed action is being undertaken in accordance with the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM)(2020) and will be documented in a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). The BDAR will outline the measures taken to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to the vegetation and species habitat present within the disturbance footprint

and methodologies to minimise impacts associated with the Proposed action. Residual unavoidable impacts of the Proposed action will be calculated in accordance with the BAM (2020) and offset in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS).

If the Proposed action is deemed by the Australian Government DCCEEW to be a controlled action, it is Taronga Mine's intention to use the NSW Assessment Bilateral Agreement (DCCEEW, 2023) to assess the Proposed action at both the state and Commonwealth level. The Australian Government supports the use of the NSW BOS and the BAM (2020) as the underpinning methodology for assessment of biodiversity values, including the calculation of biodiversity credit requirements.

- **Other Approvals**
  - Water Access Licences issued under the *Water Sharing Plan for the NSW Murray Darling Basin Fractured Rock Groundwater Sources 2020* to account for groundwater inflows to the open cut pit, associated losses (operations and evaporative) and groundwater extraction to support processing activities. The Applicant holds WAL 44962 that entitles it to 636 unit shares.

Other approvals that would be required for the Project but are not covered by the provisions of Sections 4.41 or 4.42 of the EP&A Act are as follows.

- An aquifer interference approval under section 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000*.
- All necessary approvals from Glen Innes Severn Council for construction, erection and/or placement of buildings, structures and appropriate sewage treatment systems for the Project.

Section 4.41 of the EP&A Act identifies that if development consent is granted for SSD the following relevant authorisations that would otherwise have been required for the Project are not required.

- An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit under section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
- A water use approval under section 89 of the *Water Management Act 2000*.
- A water management work approval under section 90 of the *Water Management Act 2000*.

An activity approval (other than for aquifer interference) under section 91 of the *Water Management Act 2000*.

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. *

Government Agency

The principal government agency consultation to date has been with the (then) Department of Regional NSW through the Mine Development Panel process, and with DPHI through an initial Scoping Meeting. A range of feedback was received during this consultation, principally relating to the following:

- The ongoing consultation and assessment processes, including need for further consultation with NSW Resources' Rehabilitation and Security Panel and Resource and Economic Assessment Team. These processes are required prior exhibition of the EIS.
- The need for an initial site inspection by DPHI and relevant NSW Government agencies (as determined by DPHI) prior to the preparation of SEARs.
- The role of Investment NSW in seeking to develop opportunities for tin in the South Korean and Japanese markets.
- The role of the NSW Critical Minerals Activation Fund in seeking to develop value-add opportunities for produced tin.
- Ensuring proper consideration of traffic, air and noise.
- Need to consult with Council in relation to transport, roads and accommodation of mining personnel.

1. Additional individual consultation is proposed for each of the above as well as the following agencies throughout preparation of the EIS:

- NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy and the Environment & Water (NSW DCCEEW) – A briefing letter was issued to the NSW DCCEEW (Biodiversity, Conservation and Science) and a site meeting was held on 21 August 2024.
- Crown Lands NSW.

Glen Innes Severn Shire Council

The Applicant held an initial meeting with Council on 28 July 2022 who indicated general support for the Project provided the needs of residents were adequately considered and addressed. The Applicant continues to regularly consult with Council on a range of matters as needed.

Transgrid/Lumea

The Applicant has been actively consulting with Transgrid's wholly owned subsidiary in relation to Transgrid Site Grampian Ridge 250528. Consultation to date has involved meetings and email communication to establish the relevant assessments and criteria for the continued operation of the telecommunications equipment and associated infrastructure positioned within the Transgrid/Lumea site. Following completion of the relevant assessments, and prior to EIS submission, the Applicant will provide draft copies of each assessment for the consideration of Transgrid/Lumea and hold a meeting to discuss the outcomes.

Community and Stakeholder

The Applicant has developed a comprehensive engagement plan that includes detailed analysis of the local and regional community. Under this plan, the Applicant commenced a program of engagement including an initial community meeting held at Emmaville on 27 July 2022. Outcomes from this initial meeting indicated majority support for the Project from the local community with a strong desire to see local skills and suppliers preferentially utilised. The following community and stakeholder engagement has been undertaken for each of the following groups:

- **Near neighbours (residents and farmers in the immediate vicinity of the Project Site):**
  - Focus groups to discuss potential impacts, concerns, the draft Mine Site layout and EIS timing.
  - One on one visits from the Applicant's management team and geologists to discuss access arrangements and any individual issues raised during the exploration phase.
  - Hand delivery of notifications related to exploration.
  - E-mail updates.
  - Community newsletter.

    - Survey on communication needs and project awareness.
- **Emmaville residents:**
    - Open invite (town hall) meetings to discuss plans, draft Mine Site layout, EIS preparation and process, community aspirations and potential impacts.
    - “Open door” policy for drop-in questions at the Applicant’s exploration depot in Emmaville.
    - Community newsletter.
    - Survey on communication needs and Project awareness
    - Posters with links to survey.
    - Fact Sheets and website updates
    - Promotional presence at community events such as the Emmaville fete (sponsors) and Anzac Day events.
    - Database of potential employees promoted and managed.
- **Surrounding Local Government Area residents:**
    - Community newsletter.
- **First Nations – Nggorabul People:**
    - Community Meeting in Glen Innes with Tenterfield, Glen Innes and Inverell LACs with an online video link provided.
    - Correspondence via e-mail and newsletters.
    - Informal meetings at Glen Innes LAC.
    - Meetings with individuals on request.
- **Local businesses**
    - Workshop to scope capacity for servicing the Project and general economic issues.
    - Informal one on one discussions.
    - Community newsletter
- **Local community facilities (i.e. school, hospital, emergency services, sporting clubs).**
    - Workshop to scope capacity for servicing workforce associated with the Project, and general capacity issues.
    - Community Newsletter.

1. **Future consultation to be undertaken to relevant stakeholder groups:**

- Individual meetings/discussions
- Email updates
- Fact sheets/newsletters – hand deliver / letterbox drop / email.
- Local media/websites/fact sheets
- Site tours

Participation and input to the Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment for the Project (First Nations – Nggorabul People).

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	31002033712
Organisation name	R W CORKERY & CO PTY LTD
Organisation address	2067 NSW

Referring party details

Name	Rebecca Raynal
Job title	Graduate Environmental Consultant
Phone	0429 635 975
Email	rebecca@rwcorkery.com
Address	North Tower, Suite 12.01, 1/5 Railway St, Chatswood NSW 2067

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	81126854288
Organisation name	TARONGA MINES PTY LTD
Organisation address	4000 QLD

Person proposing to take the action details

Name	Tony Truelove
Job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	0416 062 321
Email	tony.truelove@firsttin.com
Address	2 Glen Innes Rd, Emmaville, NSW, 2371, Australia

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. *

- A targeted compliance audit program regarding the Exploration Code of Practice was conducted by the NSW Resource Regulator in 2023 during exploration activities. The audit assessed Environmental Management, Rehabilitation and Community consultation. Taronga Tin Mines was found to be compliant, making two suggestions for improvement regarding reviewing the rehabilitation risk assessment against rehabilitation objectives and reviewing the community engagement risks with reference to objectives for consultation. Please refer to the attachment EL8707 Audit findings letter for further detail.
- A biodiversity assessment (test of significance) was undertaken by GeoLINK during a drilling program (Phase 3) in 2024 and the assessment found the drilling program would not significantly impact any of the identified local populations near/on the Project Site. Please refer to the attachment Drill Program Phase 3 for further detail.
- In Febuary 2024 a noise complaint was made on EL 8335 from a resident in the Emmaville community. The complaint was investigated by the NSW Resource Regulator and no offences under the Mining Act 1992 were determined. No further action was taken by Taronga Mines or by the Resource Regulator. Please refer to the attachment Noise Complaint Letter for further detail.

On 15 of January the NSW Resource Regulator issued Taronga Mines a written direction notice (LETT0009715) to prepare and submit and Forward Program, Rehabilitation Objectives statement and Final Landform Rehabilitation Plan for ML1774 within 30 days of the DA approval for SSD-74389710. On 18 Febuary 2025 Taronga Mines made submissions to the NSW Resource Regulator for an extension of time to prepare and submit the documents mentioned above. On 25 February 2025 the NSW Resource Regulator approved the submissions and an extension of the compliance period was granted. This was an administrative matter and did not relate to any non-compliance of physical harm to the environment. The letter from the Resource Regulator dated 25/2/2025 can be found as the attachment Resource Regulator_LET009715.

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

Taronga Mines Pty Ltd is committed to responsible environmental stewardship, integrating sustainable practices into all aspects of operations.

Taronga Mines commits to:

- Adhere to all relevant Environmental Legislation, regulations and standards.
- Implement and maintain Environmental Management Systems aligned with ISO 14001.
- Identify, assess and manage environmental risk by applying the mitigation hierarchy: avoid, minimise, mitigate and rehabilitate.
- Manage Water resources responsibly and implement measures to optimize water use and quality.
- Protect and enhance biodiversity by preventing habitat degradation wherever possible and promoting conservation initiatives.
- Monitor and reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions and improve energy efficiency.
- Design, operate and decommission tailings storage facilities and manage waste to reduce environmental impact and ensure safety.
- Engage with Indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders to incorporate their insights into decision making
- Provide ongoing training to employees and contractors to foster environmental responsibility

Regularly review and enhance environmental performance through audits and monitoring and the adoption of best practice.

A copy of the Environmental Policy summarised here can be found in Attachment Environmental Policy.

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	81126854288
Organisation name	TARONGA MINES PTY LTD
Organisation address	4000 QLD

Proposed designated proponent details

Name	Tony Truelove
Job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	0416 062 321
Email	tony.truelove@firsttin.com
Address	2 Glen Innes Rd, Emmaville, NSW, 2371, Australia

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	31002033712
Organisation name	R W CORKERY & CO PTY LTD
Organisation address	2067 NSW
Representative's name	Rebecca Raynal
Representative's job title	Graduate Environmental Consultant
Phone	0429 635 975
Email	rebecca@rwcorkery.com
Address	North Tower, Suite 12.01, 1/5 Railway St, Chatswood NSW 2067

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	81126854288
Organisation name	TARONGA MINES PTY LTD
Organisation address	4000 QLD
Representative's name	Tony Truelove
Representative's job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	0416 062 321
Email	tony.truelove@firsttin.com
Address	2 Glen Innes Rd, Emmaville, NSW, 2371, Australia

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? *

No

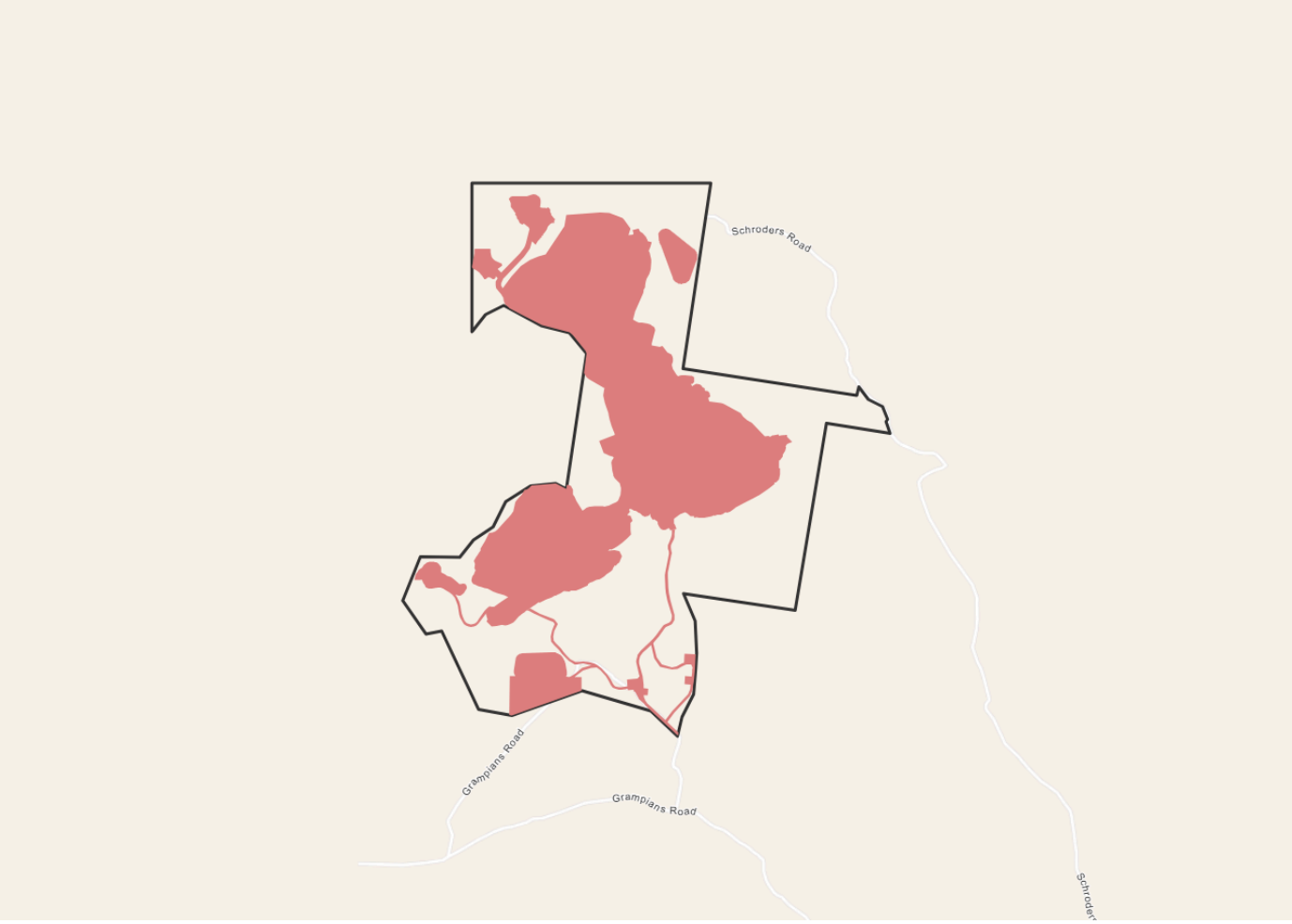
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

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

Proposed designated proponent

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



Project Area: 708.73 Ha **Disturbance Footprint:** 318.68 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

Grampians Rd, Emmaville NSW 2371(Latitude: 29° 23' 14.74" S; Longitude: 151° 33' 4.23" E)

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

New South Wales

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? *

Tenure has both freehold title and non-freehold (Crown Land). The land on which the proposed Project Site would be situated is either owned by the Applicant (Taronga Mines Pty Ltd), the State of NSW (managed by NSW Crown Lands) or the NSW Electricity Transmission Ministerial Holding Corporation.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

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

The Mine Site adjoins the terminal section of Grampians Road, located approximately 7.5 kilometres (km) northwest of the township of Emmaville in northern NSW.

All land within the proposed Mine Site is zoned RU1 – Primary Production under the *Glen Innes Severn Local Environmental Plan 2012* (Glen Innes Severn LEP) and is primarily within a rural setting. The area surrounding the Mine Site is a rural area with sparsely located agricultural properties, with one or two houses on each property. These are typically occupied by residents who rely on the respective property's agricultural operations for some or all their income or tenants. The vegetation within and surrounding the Mine Site and associated infrastructure typically comprises native dry sclerophyll (eucalyptus) woodland / forest and pastoral grassland.

The Mine Site is situated in hilly terrain with forested ridges around it. The Mine Site incorporates sections of a prominent local feature known as Grampian Ridge which form two 'limbs' being:

- a north-east to south-west limb with elevations between approximately 850m AHD and 970m AHD
- a south-east to north/north-west limb with elevations between approximately 850m AHD and 950m AHD.

The slopes flanking Grampian Ridge are generally steep, between 20-30% but increasing to 40-50% in some sections. These slopes are scree covered, with little to no soil, and principally vegetated by woody species. These slopes have been cut by access tracks attributed to legacy mining, fossicking and minerals exploration. Within the narrow valleys, slopes are also steep (between 10-20%).

The vegetation within the Mine Site is primarily native dry sclerophyll (eucalyptus) woodland / forest in relatively good condition, with a relatively high native species diversity and good cover of canopy species. The exception of this is where legacy mining and agricultural practices have been undertaken, which predominately occur in the northern and southern portions of the Mine Site. Owing to past disturbance, areas that have had ongoing and historic disturbance contain a lower diversity of native species and a higher diversity and cover of exotic plant species.

The regional drainage setting for the Mine Site is the Beardy River, which flows into the Dumaresq River approximately 27 km northwest of the Mine Site. A major tributary of the Beardy River, the fourth order Vegetable Creek generally flows in a westerly direction south of the Mine Site before switching to a northerly flow direction southwest of the Mine Site. Vegetable Creek then maintains a northerly flow path, west of the Mine Site until it joins the Beardy River approximately 5 km northwest of the Mine Site. Locally, Grampian Ridge and the incised topography forms multiple sub-catchments that are drained by either 1st, 2nd or 3rd order watercourses. Within the Mine Site, many of these sub-catchments are minor headwaters that would be undisturbed by Project-related activities. However, both limbs of Grampian Ridge form a sub-catchment divide that directs drainage either towards Vegetable Creek or the Beardy River. The largest sub-catchments within the Mine Site are as follows:

- Little Plant Creek: a northward draining sub-catchment whose principal drainage feature is a 3rd order watercourse that receives flow from multiple unnamed 1st and 2nd order watercourses before discharging into the Beardy River. This sub-catchment contains historic dams that were constructed to support agricultural or alluvial mining activities.
- Carrs Gully: a sub-catchment draining toward the south which contains the 2nd order Carrs Gully and other unnamed 1st and 2nd order watercourses that separately discharge into the fourth order Vegetable Creek. This sub-catchment also contains historic dams that were constructed to support agricultural or alluvial mining activities.
- Southwestern: a minor sub-catchment that is drained by a 2nd order watercourse which flows towards the southwest before discharging into Vegetable Creek.
- Southeastern: a sub-catchment that is drained by unnamed 1st and 2nd order watercourses which flow towards the south before discharging into Vegetable Creek.
- Western: a minor, westward flowing sub-catchment that is drained by a 3rd order watercourse which discharges into Vegetable Creek.

There are a series of dams in the Mine Site, which have been historically constructed to support agricultural or alluvial mining activities. Despite being artificial dams, some provide habitat for a number of common fauna species, including frogs, microbats, and birds.

Built features within and surrounding the Mine Site include the following:

- Telecommunications equipment and infrastructure associated with Transgrid Site - Grampian Ridge (#250528);
- Regional roads, including Emmaville and Wellington Vale Roads;
- Local roads, including Grampians, Gulf and Schroders Roads;
- Unnamed access tracks;
- Agricultural infrastructure, including farm residences, shed, fences, silos and pastural land;
- Historic mining infrastructure including active and disused mine adits.

The site has not been significantly impacted by natural hazards such as bushfire or flood in recent years.

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

The Mine Site is approximately 708ha in size. The areas of the Mine Site subject to the Proposed action (Disturbance footprint) includes:

- Approximately 315 ha of native vegetation (noting that the proposed disturbance footprint of 318.6ha includes approximately 3.4ha of cleared, Category 1 land that has been classed in accordance with NSW Local Land Services Act 2013)

Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report 2025.

Current land use

The principal land use within the Mine Site is ‘grazing native vegetation’ with an area in the southern section also identified as being for ‘mining’. Minor areas surrounding the Mine Site are also identified as being ‘grazing modified pasture’. The remainder of the Mite Site is mix of grazing land and retained native vegetation.

A portion of the Mine Site (Lot 1 DP 1008294) is owned by the NSW Electricity Transmission Ministerial Holding Corporation and is sub-leased to Transgrid and its wholly owned subsidiary, Lumea. A section of the Applicant-owned (Lot 2 DP 1008294) is sub-leased to the NSW Telecommunications Authority (NSW TA). Situated within these lands, collectively known as ‘Transgrid Site Grampian Ridge 250528’.

Proposed land use

The Proposed action involves extraction of tin ore using conventional drill, blast, load and haul from two open cut pits. Tin deposit comprises two separate zones along an approximately 2.6 km long strike and up to 260m wide. The Proposed action involves the following key components:

- Total Material Extracted (Project life) of 80.3 Mt2 comprising:
  - 39.7 Mt of tin ore;
  - 40.5 Mt of waste rock.
- Maximum Extraction Rate of up to 10 Mt per annum comprising:
  - Up to 5.1 Mt per annum of tin ore; and
  - Up to 5.8 Mt of waste rock per annum
- Employment of up to 150 personnel during site establishment & construction stage and approximately 129 personnel during operations.
- The Project would operate 24 hours, 7 days per week.
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  - A site establishment and construction period of approximately two years;
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  - 2-year period for decommissioning, landform establishment and revegetation period following the cessation of mining operations; and
  - 7-year period of rehabilitation monitoring

In addition to the Mine Site, a proposed Mine Camp (Lot 1 DP 1187809), approximately 10 km northwest of Glen Innes township, is an ancillary Project component separate to the Mine Site, this is also situated within the Glen Innes Severn LGA. The Mine Camp and associated infrastructure will be utilised for up to 50 personnel. Following the cessation of mining and processing operations, Mine Camp infrastructure and services would be retained or removed according to the requirements of the landowner (Glen Innes Severn Council).

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

No areas of outstanding biodiversity value (AOBV) are present within the Mine Site.

There are no karst, caves, crevices, cliffs or other areas of geological significance within the Mine Site.

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 Mine Site is situated in hilly terrain with forested ridges around it. The Mine Site incorporates sections of a prominent local feature known as Grampian Ridge which form two ‘limbs’ being:

- a north-east to south-west limb with elevations between approximately 850 m AHD and 970 m AHD
- a south-east to north/north-west limb with elevations between approximately 850 m AHD and 950 m AHD.

The slopes flanking Grampian Ridge are generally steep, between 20-30% but increasing to 40-50% in some sections. These slopes are scree covered, with little to no soil, and principally vegetated by woody species. These slopes have been cut by access tracks attributed to legacy mining, fossicking and minerals exploration. Within the narrow valleys, slopes are also steep (between 10-20%). The highest point of the Mine Site is approximately 970m and the lowest point approximately 760 m.

The Project will not be in a marine area.

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.

Flora

Field surveys undertaken to date have identified a total of 129 flora species within the Project Site. Of these, two nationally threatened flora species were recorded within the Project Site:

- Velvet Wattle (*Acacia pubifolia)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act.
- Bluegrass *(Dichanthium setosum)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act

Velvet Wattle was recorded during targeted surveys across the Mine Site in multiple patches, some of which were dense with numerous individuals coppicing off mature individuals or as regrowth due to disturbance (likely from livestock and storm damage). Large patches of Velvet Wattle were also recorded outside the Mine Site within areas proposed to be established as offset areas as part of a Biodiversity Stewardship Site. No Velvet Wattle were recorded in the Mine Camp.

Bluegrass was recorded during targeted surveys within the Mine Camp at Glen Innes Airport. Bluegrass was recorded within grassland areas associated with poor condition PCT 3339. Sample specimens were collected and sent to the Royal Botanic Gardens Identification Service for confirmation. Multiple patches of Dichanthium spp. were recorded and samples collected. Not all samples were confirmed as *Dichanthium setosum*, some patches were verified as the non-threatened *Dichanthium sericeum* (Queensland Bluegrass) a native pasture grass widely used for pastoral use for livestock.

The following seven EPBC Act listed flora species were identified as having potential to occur within the Project Site based on historical records in the locality and/or PCT associations:

- *Callistemon pungens* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Ovenden's Ironbark *(Eucalyptus caleyi subsp. ovendenii)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- McKie's Stringybark *(Eucalyptus mckieana)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Narrow-leaved Peppermint *(Eucalyptus nicholii)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Heath Wrinklewort *(Rutidosis heterogama)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Austral Toadflax (*Thesium australe)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Kieth’s Zieria (*Zieria ingramii)* – Endangered EPBC Act

Targeted field surveys using ‘two-phase grid-based’ systematic surveys, parallel traverses and random meanders were undertaken within the Project Site and determined that none of the above species occur within the Project Site. Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report 2025 for Section 3.

Fauna

Field surveys undertaken to date have identified a total of 160 fauna species within the Project Site. Of these, five threatened fauna species listed under the EPBC Act were recorded within the Mine Site being:

- Brown Treecreeper (*Climacteris picumnus victoriae*) – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Hooded Robin (*Melanodryas cucullata cucullata*) – Endangered EPBC Act
- Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*) – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) – Endangered EPBC Act
- Border Thick-tailed Gecko (*Uvidicolus sphyrurus*)– Vulnerable EPBC Act

Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report 2025 for Section 3.

In addition, nine fauna species listed under the EPBC Act were identified to have a moderate or higher likelihood of occurrence based on previous records in the locality and availability of potential habitat, these include:

- Regent Honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia)* – Critically Endangered EPBC Act
- Southern Whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor)* – Critically Endangered EPBC Act

- Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri)* – Endangered EPBC Act
- Spotted-tailed Quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus)* – – Endangered EPBC Act EPBC Act
- Corben's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act
- Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus)* – Vulnerable EPBC Act

A Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) (2020) is currently being prepared to accompany the SSD project application.

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

Soils

Land and soil capability mapping identifies most of the Project Site as Class 6 (very severe limitations) with relatively small portion in the south of the Project Site as Class 4 (moder to severe limitation). The soils of the Project Site have been investigated via a test pit program which identified rudosols, tenosols, dermosols, ferrosols and sodosols present. Topsoils are relatively shallow (i.e. <0.2m) and the sparse occurrence of subsoils is also relatively shallow, where present. Preparation of a comprehensive Soil and Landscape Capability Assessment will be undertaken.

There is no risk of acid sulphate soils as the Project Site is not in a coastal location.

Vegetation

The Project Site occurs within the New England Tablelands Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Region and the Beardy River Hills (Mine Site) and Glenn Innes-Guyra Basalts (Mine Camp) IBRA Sub Region. The Mine Site occurs within Inverell Plateau Granites NSW (Mitchell) Landscape. The vegetation within the Mine Site is primarily native dry sclerophyll (eucalyptus) woodland / forest in relatively good condition, with a relatively high native species diversity and good cover of canopy species. The exception of this is where legacy mining and agricultural practices have been undertaken, which predominately occur in the northern and southern portions of the Mine Site. These disturbed areas occur as open grasslands with scattered shrubs and/or trees. Owing to past disturbance, areas that have had ongoing and historic disturbance contain a lower diversity of native species and a higher diversity and cover of exotic plant species.

The Mine Camp occurs within a disturbed lot adjacent to Glenn Innes Airport and is in association poor condition grassland. No native canopy or midstorey was present, with canopy species in the site associated with ornamental plantings. The surrounding landscape is heavily disturbed due to historical agricultural practices and residential development, with few native remnant patches. The vegetation within the site lacks an overstorey of native species, nor were any regenerating native canopy species present. However the ground layer (grasses and forbs) still retained >50% native cover, as such it was deemed that the vegetation on site is a derived state of a local PCT within the locality of the site. The Mine Camp offers limited fauna habitat due to its disturbed nature.

Four native Plant Community Types (PCTs) in different condition states have been recorded within the Project Site being:

- PCT 3722 – Western New England Box-Tumbledown Gum Grassy Forest (686.7 ha in Mine Site, 309.99 ha in Disturbance footprint),
- PCT 3363 – Western New England Blakely's Red Gum-Box Grassy Forest (1.03 ha in Mine Site, 1 ha in Disturbance footprint – predominately along access road to the Mine Site),
- PCT 4080 – Northwest River Oak-Apple Forest (0.11 ha in Mine Site, 0.11 ha in Disturbance footprint – predominately along access road to the Mine Site).
- PCT 3339 – Guyra Basalt Snow Gum Woodland (2.74 ha in Mine Camp, and 0.64 ha in Disturbance footprint – associated with the Mine Camp).

Vegetation present across the majority of the Mine Site (i.e. PCT 3722) does not conform to threatened ecological communities (TEC) listed under the BC Act or EPBC Act. However, one TEC was identified associated with the Mine Site, being:

- *White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland* – Critically Endangered under both the EPBC Act and BC Act. Associated with PCT 3363 Western New England Blakely's Red Gum-Box Grassy Forest

PCT 3363 predominately occurs along the access route (Grampian's Road) to the proposed Mine Site. This area is relatively small in the extent of impact associated with the Project Site.

In addition to the native vegetation within the Mine Site there are also areas of predominantly cleared land in the southern sections of the site. These cleared areas are attributed to legacy mining, fossicking and minerals exploration as result of historic mining practices. Cleared areas are now dominated by exotic vegetation or dominated by scree rock.

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.

No Commonwealth Heritage Place or other places recognised as having heritage values occur within the Project Site or in proximity.

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

Field surveys, undertaken with Aboriginal representatives, identified one Aboriginal cultural heritage site, comprising one item of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance within the Mine Site. This item, an isolated stone artefact, is considered to have high cultural significance and low scientific, educational and aesthetic significance. Investigations, involving field survey, are being undertaken with the participation of Aboriginal stakeholders. The identified Aboriginal cultural heritage site is situated beyond any area of Project-related disturbance.

An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment of the proposed disturbance footprint will be undertaken in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (DECCW, 2010a) and the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents* (DECCW, 2010b).

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. *

Surface water

The Mine Site is situated in the Border Rivers Catchment. The main waterways within or adjacent to the Mine Site are Vegetable Creek and Little Plant Creek which discharge into the Beardy River. The Mine Site incorporates several first order and one second order watercourses which ultimately drain to Vegetable Creek. Surface water is only present in these watercourses after a significant rainfall event.

The regional drainage/hydrology setting for the Mine Site is the Beardy River, which flows into the Dumaresq River approximately 27 km northwest of the Mine Site. A major tributary of the Beardy River, the fourth order Vegetable Creek generally flows in a westerly direction south of the Mine Site before switching to a northerly flow direction southwest of the Mine Site. Vegetable Creek then maintains a northerly flow path, west of the Mine Site until it joins the Beardy River approximately 5 km northwest of the Mine Site. Locally, Grampian Ridge and the incised topography forms multiple sub-catchments that are drained by either 1st, 2nd or 3rd order watercourses. Within the Mine Site, many of these sub-catchments are minor headwaters that would be undisturbed by Project-related activities. However, both limbs of Grampian Ridge form a sub-catchment divide that directs drainage either towards Vegetable Creek or the Beardy River. The largest sub-catchments within the Mine Site are as follows:

- Little Plant Creek: a northward draining sub-catchment whose principal drainage feature is a 3rd order watercourse that receives flow from multiple unnamed 1st and 2nd order watercourses before discharging into the Beardy River. This sub-catchment contains historic dams that were constructed to support agricultural or alluvial mining activities.
- Carrs Gully: a sub-catchment draining toward the south which contains the 2nd order Carrs Gully and other unnamed 1st and 2nd order watercourses that separately discharge into the fourth order Vegetable Creek. This sub-catchment also contains historic dams that were constructed to support agricultural or alluvial mining activities.
- Southwestern: a minor sub-catchment that is drained by a 2nd order watercourse which flows towards the southwest before discharging into Vegetable Creek.
- Southeastern: a sub-catchment that is drained by unnamed 1st and 2nd order watercourses which flow towards the south before discharging into Vegetable Creek.
- Western: a minor, westward flowing sub-catchment that is drained by a 3rd order watercourse which discharges into Vegetable Creek.

There are a series of dams in the Mine Site, which have been historically constructed to support agricultural or alluvial mining activities.

There are no identified flooding risks within the Project Site.

Groundwater

The nature and occurrence of the target resource with the continuation of hard silicified metasediments at depth results in limited groundwater being present.

Groundwater levels within the Mine Site reflect topography with depths to water up to 30 metres below ground. Whilst groundwater levels are generally shallower at higher elevation, they do not intersect the ground surface, even in watercourses.

There are approximately 15 privately-owned, registered groundwater bores within a 10 km radius of the Mine Site, the closest being 4.3 km.

Groundwater resources are being investigated as potential water supply options for the Project.

Further investigations are proposed to identify potential impacts of the Project on the groundwater system. A program of groundwater monitoring (levels and quality) via a network of bores remains ongoing. Monitoring data will be used to develop a conceptual model of the groundwater setting and inform development of a numerical model for assessing potential impacts.

A groundwater impact assessment will be undertaken for the Project peer reviewed numerical modelling to support any conclusions. Modelling would consider mining operations and groundwater extraction from production bores to assess the Project against the requirements of the Aquifer Interference Policy. The groundwater assessment will also consider the relevant design criteria of the water management infrastructure and required design and operational safeguards to assess potential quality impacts from seepage.

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.

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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. *

No World Heritage properties occur within 10 km of the Project Site.

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.

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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 items of National Heritage relevant to the Proposed action.

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	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 Ramsar Wetlands present in or near the Project Site.

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	Acacia pubifolia	Velvet Wattle
No	No	Anomalopus mackayi	Five-clawed Worm-skink, Long-legged Worm-skink
Yes	Yes	Anthochaera phrygia	Regent Honeyeater
Yes	Yes	Aphelocephala leucopsis	Southern Whiteface
No	No	Arthraxon hispidus	Hairy-joint Grass
No	No	Boronia granitica	Granite Boronia
No	No	Cadellia pentastylis	Ooline
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Callistemon pungens	
No	No	Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami	South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo
Yes	Yes	Chalinolobus dwyeri	Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat
No	No	Climacteris picumnus victoriae	Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern)
Yes	Yes	Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mainland population)	Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population)
No	No	Delma torquata	Adorned Delma, Collared Delma
No	Yes	Dichanthium setosum	bluegrass
No	No	Erythrotriorchis radiatus	Red Goshawk
No	No	Eucalyptus caleyi subsp. ovendenii	Ovenden's Ironbark
No	No	Eucalyptus mckieana	McKie's Stringybark
No	No	Eucalyptus nicholii	Narrow-leaved Peppermint, Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon
No	No	Furina dunmalli	Dunmall's Snake
No	No	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	Geophaps scripta scripta	Squatter Pigeon (southern)
Yes	Yes	Grantiella picta	Painted Honeyeater
No	No	Grevillea beadleana	Beadle's Grevillea
Yes	Yes	Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail
No	No	Homoranthus lunatus	
Yes	Yes	Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot
No	No	Melanodryas cucullata cucullata	South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern)
No	No	Myuchelys belli	Western Sawshelled Turtle
No	No	Neophema chrysostoma	Blue-winged Parrot
Yes	Yes	Nyctophilus corbeni	Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat
No	No	Petaurus australis australis	Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)
No	No	Petrogale penicillata	Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby
No	No	Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)	Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory)
No	No	Picris evae	Hawkweed
No	No	Pseudomys novaehollandiae	New Holland Mouse, Pookila
Yes	Yes	Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying-fox
No	No	Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe
No	No	Rutidosis heterogama	Heath Wrinklewort
No	No	Stagonopleura guttata	Diamond Firetail
No	No	Swainsona murrayana	Slender Darling-pea, Slender Swainson, Murray Swainson-pea
No	No	Thesium australe	Austral Toadflax, Toadflax

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
Yes	Yes	Uvidicolus sphyrurus	Border Thick-tailed Gecko, Granite Belt Thick-tailed Gecko
No	No	Vincetoxicum forsteri	

Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
No	No	Natural grasslands on basalt and fine-textured alluvial plains of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland
No	No	New England Peppermint (Eucalyptus nova-anglica) Grassy Woodlands
Yes	No	White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

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. *

Threatened species

Two EPBC Act listed threatened flora species, was recorded within the Project Site, Velvet Wattle (*Acacia pubifolia) (*Mine Site*)* andBluegrass (*Dichanthium setosum*) (Mine Camp)*.*

In regard to Velvet Wattle, targeted surveys identified a total of 3,619 individuals within the Mine Site covering approximately 23.22 ha. The Proposed Action will directly impact Velvet Wattle through the removal of approximately 1,967 individuals and approximately 8.28 ha of habitat, which includes a 30-metre buffer around the recorded individuals (Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025).

For Bluegrass, targeted surveys recorded the species within the Mine Camp adjacent to Glen Innes Airport. Bluegrass was recorded within grassland areas associated with poor condition PCT 3339. Sample specimens were collected and sent to the Royal Botanic Gardens Identification Service for confirmation. Multiple patches of *Dichanthium* spp. were recorded and samples collected. Not all samples were confirmed as *Dichanthium setosum*, some patches were verified as the non-threatened *Dichanthium sericeum* (Queensland Bluegrass) a native pasture grass widely used for pastoral use for livestock. The Mine Camp does not directly impact the confirm record of Bluegrass, however, suitable grassland habitat within the site will be disturbed (Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025).

Five EPBC Act listed threatened fauna were recorded within the Mine Site including:

- Brown Treecreeper (*Climacteris picumnus victoriae*)
- Hooded Robin (*Melanodryas cucullata cucullata*)
- Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*)
- Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*)
- Border Thick-tailed Gecko (*Uvidicolus sphyrurus*)

An additional nine EPBC Act listed threatened fauna that are likely to occur at the Mine Site based on suitable habitat, these include:

- Regent Honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia)*
- Southern Whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis)*
- Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta)*
- White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus)*
- Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor)*
- Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri)*
- Spotted-tailed Quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus)*
- Corben's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni)*
- Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus)*

Direct impacts to these species through the disturbance of approximately 258 ha of known or suitable habitat are predicted as a result of the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action may also result in indirect impacts to the above threatened fauna species from construction and operation activities, including noise, dust, light and vibration.

Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025

Threatened Ecological Communities

One TEC was identified associated with the Project Site, being:

- *White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland*.

White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland is associated with PCT 3363 Western New England Blakely's Red Gum-Box Grassy Forest. PCT 3363 predominately occurs along the access route (Grampian's Road) to the proposed Mine Site. A total of 1 ha of PCT 3363 will be impacted as a result of the Proposed action. This impact is predominately due to road realignment and widening to accommodate a safe access route to the proposed Mine Site. The area White Box - Yellow

Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland TEC to be impacted by the Proposed action is relatively small in area and is considered unlikely to significantly interfere with the recovery of this ecological community. Direct offsets will be provided to compensate for the proposed loss of habitat.

Refer to Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.

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. *

For those protected matters that were considered to have potential to occur within the Disturbance footprint, or that were recorded within the Disturbance footprint, assessments of significance were prepared, in accordance with *Matters of National Environmental Significance. Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1* (DoE 2013), as presented in Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.

The Proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the following EPBC Act listed species:

- Velvet Wattle
- Border Thick-tailed Gecko

The significant impact assessment for Velvet Wattle concluded that the loss of approximately 8.28 ha of known habitat for the species will directly impact approximately 47% of the number of known individuals (considered to be a relatively significant proportion of the population) within the local important population (Mine site). Based on the direct impact to known individuals (as quantified by count), the Proposed action may result in a significant adverse impact on the important population potentially leading to a long-term decrease in its size. Therefore, there is a real chance that the Proposed action will cause a significant impact to the species, necessitating a referral.

The significant impact assessment for Border Thick-tailed Gecko concluded that the loss of approximately 258 ha of suitable habitat is likely to have a residual adverse impact on the species in context of its local population. There is uncertainty about the extent to which these impacts will reduce the availability or quality of the habitat, potentially resulting in a long-term decrease in the size of an important population. Therefore, there is a real chance that the Proposed Action will cause a significant impact on the species, necessitating a referral.

The Proposed action's impact upon all other threatened species identified is not considered to be significant, based on significant impact assessments undertaken (refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025).

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. *

The proposed disturbance of approximately 315 hectares of native vegetation within the Mine Site for mineral extraction is expected to result in unavoidable impacts to biodiversity. As a result, the disturbance will likely affect threatened species and the habitats of various other threatened flora and fauna. These impacts are anticipated to have a material effect on these species.

The Proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the Velvet Wattle, through the loss of approximately 8.28 ha of known habitat. The Proposed action will directly impact 1,967 individuals, as a proportion this is approximately 47% of the important population subject to the assessment (Mine site). In regard to the recorded population within the greater locality (50 km), which currently totals 7,771 individuals (BioNet records) the Proposed action impact equates to the loss of 25%. Based on the direct impact to known individuals (as quantified by count), the Proposed Action may result in a significant adverse impact to the important population such that it may cause a long-term decrease in the size of an important population.

Regarding the Border Thick-tailed Gecko, the Proposed Action may lead to a long-term decrease in the size of the local population. This is due to the removal of 258 hectares of habitat, which is essential for foraging, breeding, dispersal, and maintaining genetic diversity. There is uncertainty about the extent to which these impacts will reduce the availability or quality of the habitat, potentially causing a decline in the species over time.

It is therefore considered that the Proposed Action is likely to constitute a controlled action and will require approval under the EPBC Act.

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. *

The hierarchy of avoid and minimise has been used in the design of the Proposed action; the project design has been through several iterations with biodiversity values being an important consideration in the design process. R.W. Corkery & Co. on behalf of Taronga Mines engaged GeoLINK (Ecological Consultant) during 2022 to undertake initial biodiversity constraints assessment within the Project Site. Since then, the Proposed action has been informed by iterative environmental constraint assessment comprising both desktop and field survey, with the aim to reasonably avoid and minimise significant impacts to biodiversity values. GeoLINK has been undertaking vegetation mapping, vegetation integrity assessment, habitat assessment, threatened species targeted survey, and providing ongoing advice between 2022-2025 to assist Taronga Mines in this process (refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025).

The Proposed action involves the mining of hard-rock resources. Therefore, the consideration of alternate locations and designs of the extraction area are limited by resource availability. Nonetheless, Taronga Mines have undertaken the following biodiversity avoidance measures:

- layout has considered and incorporated all feasible design alternatives to preserve existing local amenity (i.e. noise, air quality and visibility) to the fullest extent practical.
- placement of infrastructure (i.e. roads, buildings stockpiles etc) preferencing areas of existing disturbance where practicable
- Avoidance of known threatened flora records where practicable

Mitigation measures are proposed to reduce residual potential impacts on EPBC Act listed matters, including a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) for the Proposed action in accordance with the relevant NSW and Commonwealth legislation and/or policies. All works will be undertaken in accordance with general mitigation measures to be identified in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Prior to construction, a BMP, forming part of the EMP, will be prepared and will include the management measures proposed. Key minimisation and mitigation measures for biodiversity will include (but are not limited to):

- employee education and training
- retention of vegetation and habitat where possible
- fencing and access control
- traffic control measures
- staged progressive clearance
- weed and pest animal control
- erosion and sedimentation control
- minimising injury of all native animals during clearing and construction, via pre-clearance procedures using appropriately qualified ecologists
- specific pre-clearance procedures for Koala using appropriately qualified ecologists
- threatened biodiversity unexpected finds procedures
- noise, light and dust controls
- blasting controls
- rehabilitation strategies including progressive rehabilitation, and measures for the management and maintenance of rehabilitated areas (including duration)
- Velvet Wattle seed collection and propagation strategy
- Habitat supplementation measures
- Monitoring requirements and compliance with management

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

Residual unavoidable impacts of the Proposed action will be calculated in accordance with the NSW BC Act and the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) (2020). Offsets will be in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS). Offsetting obligations will be delivered in accordance with the BOS through the establishment of Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA) adjacent to the Mine site, with any residual offset obligations being met through purchase and retirement of existing biodiversity credits on the market or direct payment to the Biodiversity Conservation Fund (BCF).

Taronga Mines are actively progressing the establishment of a BSA (approximately 1800 ha in size) that has been identified to contain like for like biodiversity values to those identified within the Project Site. The BSA is located immediately adjacent to the Mine Site and is under the ownership of Taronga Mines.

At present the assessment process lies in between Stage 1 and 3 in accordance with the BAM (2020). There has been field validation of the PCTs and some candidate species within the site. A summary of the BSA findings is provided in Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025. To date the following BSA findings include:

- Confirmation of the presence of at least two PCTs across the offset property consistent with PCTs recorded within the Project site. The initial credit generation potential of BSA when combined is 12,994 ecosystem credits that will satisfy 100% of like for like credit requirement for Taronga's ecosystem credit liability. The area within the BSA would be a net positive offset in terms of both area and ecosystem credits.
- The presence of large areas of Velvet Wattle. Based on the known occurrence of Velvet Wattle within the BSA it is anticipated that majority (>70%) of the species credit obligation for Velvet Wattle would be met through the establishment of the BSA. Additionally, the establishment of the BSA will enable an enduring in-perpetuity conservation outcome within the local area for the species which has limited representation with locally occurring conservation reserves.
- The general condition of the PCTs observed are likely to provide habitat values for a range of threatened fauna species. To date nine of threatened fauna species have already been identified within the proposed BSA including those identified within the Mine site, this includes Border Thick-tailed Gecko.
- BSA will provide for the strategic benefits of consolidating regional reserves in the north (i.e. Torrington), with the intention of recreating a consolidated habitat linkages within a regional wildlife corridor to increase the overall biodiversity values of the area. The establishment of this offset property will facilitate the movement of threatened species throughout the region and provide for the conservation of large areas of consolidated vegetation and threatened species habitat within the northern tablelands.

If the Proposed action is deemed by the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) to be a controlled action, Taronga Mines proposed to use the NSW Assessment Bilateral Agreement (DCCEEW, 2023) to assess the Proposed action at both the state and Commonwealth level. It is understood that DCCEEW supports the use of the NSW BOS and the BAM (2020) as the underpinning methodology for assessment of biodiversity values, including the calculation of biodiversity credit requirements.

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	Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper
Yes	No	Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris melanotos	Pectoral Sandpiper
No	No	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
Yes	No	Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail
No	No	Motacilla flava	Yellow Wagtail
No	No	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey

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. *

Direct impact (removal of 315 ha of native vegetation that is habitat) for the Proposed action will impact the following EPBC Act listed migratory species:

- Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*)
- White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)
- Satin Flycatcher (*Myiagra cyanoleuca*) (This species was not available to add in Section 4.1.5)

Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.

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. *

While migratory species of bird may potentially use the Project Site, the site would not be classed as 'important habitat' as defined by the '*Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance*' (Department of the Environment 2013), 'important habitat' is defined as:

- Habitat utilised by a migratory species occasionally or periodically within a region that supports an ecological significant proportion of the population of the species, and/or
- Habitat that is of critical importance to the species at particular life-cycle stages, and/or
- Habitat utilised by a migratory species which is at the limit of the species range; and/or
- Habitat within an area where the species is declining.

While some migratory species of bird are likely to use the Project Site and locality, it would not be classed as an 'important habitat' for the following reasons:

- No nationally or internationally important habitats for migratory wetlands species are present in the study area according to the definition provided in the EPBC Act Policy Statement 3.21—Industry guidelines for avoiding, assessing and mitigating impacts on EPBC Act listed migratory shorebird species (Commonwealth of Australia 2017).
- There are no important habitats for the above species in the Project Site as outlined in the Draft Referral guideline for 14 birds listed as migratory species under the EPBC Act (Commonwealth of Australia 2017).
- A nationally significant proportion of a listed Migratory bird population would not be supported by the habitats in the Project Site.
- The Project Site does not contain any known important foraging grounds for listed migratory species and the Project would not impact on any significant foraging habitats.
- The Project Site does not contain any known important staging grounds for migration.
- The Project Site does not contain habitat that is at the limit of a listed Migratory species' range.
- The Project Site is not located within an area where a listed Migratory species is known to be declining.

Despite the Project Site not considered as 'important habitat' for migratory species, assessment of significance were completed for the above species. Assessment of significance were completed in accordance with the *EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance* (Department of the Environment, 2013).

The assessment of significance concluded that the Proposed action would not substantially modify, destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for any EPBC Act listed Migratory species and it would not seriously disrupt the lifecycle of an ecologically significant proportion of a population of migratory birds (refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025).

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. *

For those migratory species that were considered to have potential to occur within the Disturbance footprint, assessments of significance were prepared, in accordance with the *EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance* (Department of the Environment, 2013), as presented in Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.

The assessments concluded that the Proposed Action is unlikely to support an ecologically significant proportion of the populations of the migratory species. Therefore, the Proposed action is unlikely to disrupt the lifecycles of an ecologically significant proportion of the migratory species.

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 Proposed action involves the extraction of hard-rock resources. Therefore, the consideration of alternate locations and designs of the pit area are limited by resource availability.

The avoidance and mitigation measures explained in Section 4.1.4.10 are also proposed to minimise any potential impacts upon Migratory species listed under the EPBC Act.

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

Residual unavoidable impacts of the Proposed action will be calculated in accordance with the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) (2020). Offsets will be in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS). Accordingly, the biodiversity offset strategy for the Proposed action will be developed in consultation with the NSW DCCEEWW.

If the Proposed action is deemed by the Australian DCCEEW to be a controlled action, Taronga Mines proposes to use the NSW Assessment Bilateral Agreement (DCCEEW, 2023) to assess the Proposed action at both the State and Commonwealth level. The DCCEEW supports the use of the NSW BOS and the BAM (2020) as the underpinning methodology for assessment of biodiversity values, including the calculation of biodiversity credit requirements.

Refer to Att 1-EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.

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. *

There are no nuclear actions relevant to the Proposed 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.

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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 relevant to the Proposed action.

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 is not relevant to the Proposed action.

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. *

Coal mining is not relevant to the Proposed action.

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.

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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 relevant to the Proposed action.

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.

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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 is in Australia.

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. *

The Proposed action involves the mining of hard-rock resources. Therefore, the consideration of alternate locations and designs of the pit area are limited by resource availability.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	25/07/2025	No	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	Drill Program Phase 3 - Bio Assess.pdf Drill Program Biodiversity assessment - sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	10/06/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	EL8407_Audit findings letter.pdf Audit findings for EL8407		No	High
#3.	Document	Noise Complaint Letter.pdf Noise Complaint Letter		No	High
#4.	Document	Resource Regulator_LETT009715.pdf Letter from Resource Regulator regarding LETT009715		No	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	Environmental Policy.pdf Taronga Tin Mine Environmental Policy		No	High

3.1.2 Existing or proposed uses for the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support	24/07/2025	No	High

EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km

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	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	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	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	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	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	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	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	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	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	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	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	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	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	High

4.1.5.11 (Migratory Species) Proposed offsets relevant to avoidance or mitigation measures

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1- EPBC Referral Supplementary Report-2025.pdf Supplementary material to support EPBC referral, sensitive species have been generalised to 1km	24/07/2025	No	High

5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

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

ABN/ACN	31002033712
Organisation name	R W CORKERY & CO PTY LTD
Organisation address	2067 NSW
Representative's name	Rebecca Raynal
Representative's job title	Graduate Environmental Consultant
Phone	0429 635 975
Email	rebecca@rwcorkery.com
Address	North Tower, Suite 12.01, 1/5 Railway St, Chatswood NSW 2067

☑ 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, **Rebecca Raynal of R W CORKERY & CO PTY LTD**, 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	81126854288
Organisation name	TARONGA MINES PTY LTD
Organisation address	4000 QLD
Representative's name	Tony Truelove

Representative's job title	Chief Operating Officer
Phone	0416 062 321
Email	tony.truelove@firsttin.com
Address	2 Glen Innes Rd, Emmaville, NSW, 2371, Australia

☑ 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, **Tony Truelove of TARONGA MINES 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, **Tony Truelove of TARONGA MINES 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. *