Devlins Bridge Wind Farm

Application Number: **02414** Commencement Date: **23/05/2024** Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Devlins Bridge Wind Farm

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Energy Generation and Supply (renewable)

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Wind Farm

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/01/2027

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

01/01/2057

1.2 Proposed Action details

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

The proposed Devlins Bridge Wind Farm (the Project) is located about 22 kilometres (km) west of the Narrandera township in the locality of Euroley, within the Narrandera Local Government Area (LGA) in south-western New South Wales.

The Project involves the construction, operation and maintenance of a new wind farm with up to 94 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and associated infrastructure, and a generating capacity of approximately 680 megawatts (MW). The Project will connect to the existing 330 kV Wagga to Darlington Point overhead transmission line.

The Project area spans 55 land parcels owned by 12 landowners. The Project area is approximately 7,260 hectares. The WTGs would be spread across a disturbance footprint (construction footprint with a siting buffer applied) of approximately 638 hectares with the remaining area untouched (this impact represents about 9% of the total Project area, with about 6,622 hectares being the avoidance footprint). Temporary construction compounds and laydown areas are within this proposed disturbance footprint during Project construction.

The indicative Project layout (see Attachment 1 - Proposed Project Layout, page 1) has been informed by discussions with host landowners, neighbours and community, preliminary consideration of biodiversity, heritage and amenity impacts, and has been subject to several design iterations to incorporate feedback received. Where landowners and neighbours did not wish to be involved in the Project, these areas have been removed from the Project area and a buffer distance applied.

The Project layout will be subject to further refinement during the EIS and further design development to minimise impacts on the environment and community. This will be informed by further technical studies and the continued community and stakeholder consultation.

Key components of the Project are likely to include:

- Up to 94 WTGs, each consisting of:
  - Per unit generating capacity of up to 7.2 MW,
  - A three-blade rotor and nacelle mounted onto a tower, with a maximum tip height of 290 metres,
  - A crane hardstand area,
  - A turbine laydown area,
- Electrical infrastructure, including:
  - A primary terminal station,
  - A collector substation and associated overhead power line (up to 330 kV),
  - Underground 33 kV reticulation network to transmit the electricity generated by the WTGs to the collector or terminal substation,
  - Connection to the 330 kV Transgrid transmission line which runs along the southern boundary of the site.
- Permanent ancillary infrastructure, including:
  - Site access via the Sturt Hwy,
  - An operation and maintenance facility, including site offices and car park,
  - Up to four permanent meteorological masts, located close to a WTG location, with a maximum height of 190 metres,
  - Internal access tracks to, from and in between WTGs and substations,
  - A biosecurity vehicle wash down facility.
- Temporary construction facilities including:
  - A central construction compound supporting multiple laydown areas,
  - Possible temporary onsite workers accommodation facilities,
  - Stockpile areas and onsite water sourcing,
  - Up to two concrete batch plants,
  - Gravel and/or sand borrow pits (if feasible),
  - Up to four temporary meteorological masts, located close to a WTG location, with a maximum height of 190 metres,
  - Upgrades to local roads and crossings where required for the delivery, installation and maintenance of WTG components and associated materials and structures.

Construction: In terms of disturbance, the construction activities include vegetation clearing, excavation for access tracks and turbine footings and ancillary infrastructure, installation of components, followed by rehabilitation of disturbed areas. This would generate direct impacts to native vegetation and habitat.

Operation: Maintenance activities include inspection, testing and maintenance of components on a rolling basis, as well as maintenance of landscaping and asset protection zones, access tracks and hardstands. Direct environmental impacts may include bird and bat collision risks with turbines as well as noise and visual impacts of operational infrastructure.

Decommissioning: Following the end of economic life, the Project would either be decommissioned or refurbished with upgrades to power generation infrastructure. If decommissioned, the Project area would be rehabilitated to its pre-construction conditions. Stromlo Energy will prepare a decommissioning and rehabilitation plan as part of the EIS, in consultation with relevant stakeholders and landowners.

The main construction impact to matters protected under the EPBC Act is expected to occur through vegetation clearance and the potential presence of EPBC listed threatened ecological communities and species within the Project area. The main operational impact to matters protected under the EPBC Act may be through bird and bat collision risks and potential barrier effects from turbines and powerlines. Existing land management practices will be largely able to co-exist with the Project, with the participating properties continuing to be used principally for dryland agriculture.

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

No

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

The Project will be assessed as a State Significant Development (SSD) under the NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and is likely to require assessment under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Key Commonwealth planning framework

The EPBC Act provides the legal framework to protect and manage Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), while also considering cultural values and society's economic and social needs. MNES protected by the EPBC Act includes threatened species and ecological communities, migratory species (protected under international agreements), and national heritage places (among others).

Any actions that would, or are likely to, have a significant impact on MNES require referral to, and approval from, the Commonwealth Government Minister for the Environment.

MNES have been identified as potentially occurring on or near the Project area, including listed threatened species or endangered communities. This referral is being made to the Commonwealth DCCEEW to determine if the Project would have a significant impact on a MNES. It is expected that the Project would be assessed under the NSW Bilateral Agreement with the Commonwealth. The Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) is an accredited process under the bilateral agreement, meaning it meets the standards and requirements set by both the NSW government and the EPBC Act to ensure that biodiversity impacts are adequately managed and offset.

Key NSW planning framework

The EP&A Act and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (the EP&A Regulation) provide the framework for land use planning and development control in NSW. The EP&A Act and Regulation are supported by a number of Environmental Planning Instruments, which include State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs).

The Project is SSD under Section 2.6(1) in conjunction with Section 20 of Schedule 1 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021, as it is for the purpose of electricity generating works and has a capital investment value estimated to exceed $30 million.

Under Section 4.12(8) of the EP&A Act, the application for SSD is to be accompanied by an EIS that meets the requirements of Schedule 2 of the EP&A Regulation. A scoping report is under preparation to be submitted to NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.

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. *

Nine community events were conducted in Narrandera, Leeton and Euroley, NSW between December 2023 and July 2024 (see Attachment 8 - DBWF Consultation Report - REDACTED, all sections). The community consultation aligned with the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Public Participation Spectrum Model (International Association for Public Participation, 2020), the Wind Energy Guideline for State Significant Wind Energy Development (NSW Government, 2016) and the Community Engagement Guidelines for the Australian Wind Industry (Clean Energy Council, 2016). Events included:

- 13 December 2023: Project briefing presented to Councillors at Narrandera Shire Council
- 14 December 2023: Community open day hosted at the Narrandera Ex servicemen’s Club
- 15 December 2023: Project neighbour wind farm tour at the Crockwell II wind farm
- 17 December 2023: Community drop-in session hosted at the Yanco Weir Rural Fire Service (RFS) depot
- 17 December 2023: Event Sponsor and information booth at the Lions Club Christmas Carols and Market
- 3 April 2024: Second community drop-in session hosted at the Yanco Weir Rural Fire Service (RFS) depot
- 4 April 2024: Cultural Awareness Training hosted by Wiradjuri elders, including training provided by Bidya Marra Consultancy and catering provided by Gundyarri Narrandera Aboriginal Association
- 6 April 2024: Project information stall at the Leeton farmers market
- 8 June 2024: Event sponsor and information stall CWA International Food Festival.

In addition to the public consultations, notification and registration of interest for Aboriginal stakeholders was undertaken from 29th February 2024 until 22nd March, 2024. Advertisements were run in both The Argus (February 29, 2024) and The Irrigator (March 01, 2024) papers. Written invitations were also issued to relevant authorities and government agencies, including;

- The Registrar, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 for a list of Aboriginal owners, emailed 23/02/2024
- Leeton and District Local Aboriginal Land Council, emailed 27/02/2024, called 13/03/2024
- Narrandera Local Aboriginal Land Council, emailed 27/02.2024 and 15/03/2024
- The National Native Title Tribunal, emailed, 27/02/2024
- NTS Corp, emailed 23/02/2024 and 27/03/2024
- The Murray Darling Basin Authority, emailed 27/02/2024
- Heritage NSW, emailed 27/02/2024
- Narrandera Shire Council, emailed 27/02/2024
- Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council, emailed 01/03/2024
- Narrandera Aboriginal Elders Liaison Group, emailed 06/03/2024.

All registered parties identified through the invitation process were contacted via both telephone and email to extend an offer to participate as a registered aboriginal party. Individuals and groups with an interest in participating were provided a personalised face to face introduction to the proposed project from the 06/05/2024 to 20/05/2024.

The cultural heritage survey methodology and protocols were presented as part of ongoing RAPs consultation on the 6th June 2024 at the Yanco Agricultural College to 14 attendees, including representatives from both Stromlo Energy and Everick Heritage.

Across all community events approximately 172 face to face interactions were recorded. Attendees were given access to printed project information, in support of information accessed via the Project website, www.devlinsbridgewindfarm.com.au. Engagement included a complement of Local Aboriginal Land Council representatives, Narrandera Shire Council representatives, Leeton Shire Council, potential suppliers, host landholders, and neighbouring landholders who live within approximately 10 kilometres of the Project.

No major objections to the Project were presented. Themes of inquiry range from project location and status to community and neighbour benefits. Stromlo Energy’s approach to both neighbour benefit and community programs was well received by all attendees. Issues of concern to the community include the projects impact on housing affordability and commitment to support local jobs and businesses.

The Community Consultation Summary (Att 8-DBWF Consultation Report - REDACTED, all sections) sets out the consultation undertaken to date as well as future ongoing consultation. Further details of consultation approach will be provided in the Project’s forthcoming Scoping Report.

In addition, a preliminary Social Impact Assessment (SIA) scoping report and worksheet (Attachment 9 - Social Impact Scoping Report, all sections) has been prepared as part of the Scoping Report, with targeted SIA consultation planned to be carried out alongside community consultation and engagement activities during the preparation of the EIS.

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.

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1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN	37001024095
Organisation name	JACOBS GROUP (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD
Organisation address	2060 NSW

Referring party details

Name	Nikki Wallace
Job title	Senior Associate Environmental Scientist
Phone	0415289480
Email	nikki.wallace@jacobs.com
Address	7/177 Pacific Highway

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	85672449204
Organisation name	DEVLINS BRIDGE WIND FARM HOLDCO PTY LTD
Organisation address	2601 ACT

Person proposing to take the action details

Name	Matthew Parton
Job title	Director
Phone	0431 300 834
Email	matthew.parton@stromlo.com
Address	Level 11, 15 London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601

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? *

Yes

1.3.2.16 Describe the nature of the trust arrangement in relation to the proposed action. *

The trust is a fixed unit trust, acting as a special purpose vehicle to hold assets relating to the proposed action. Nature of the trust is to enable transfer of the SPV to our development partner post approvals. The trust deed is provided and since it contains sensitive information this document is not published (referring to Attachment 6 - Trust Deed - Sensitive, all sections). The attached trust deed is commercial in confidence.

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. *

As Devlins Bridge Wind Farm Holdco Pty Ltd (the SPV) is a project Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) created for the purpose of contracting, constructing and operating Devlins Bridge Wind Farm, it does not have any history of responsible management to report. However, the SPV is a subsidiary of Stromlo Energy who are developing the Project. Stromlo Energy is 100% Australian owned and operated renewable energy developer, founded in 2023. Stromlo Energy was founded by Garth Heron and Matthew Parton, who are joined as Stromlo Energy directors by Amanda Vonarx. This leadership group have previously delivered over AUD$6 billion of renewable and transmission projects currently operating across Australia. In addition to the proposed Devlins Bridge Wind Farm, Stromlo Energy is developing a pipeline of projects up to 4 GW in NSW.

There have been no proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law against the SPV or Stromlo Energy.

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

The SPV does not have an environmental policy or planning framework. A construction environmental management plan will be developed for The Project.

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	85672449204
Organisation name	DEVLINS BRIDGE WIND FARM HOLDCO PTY LTD
Organisation address	2601 ACT

Proposed designated proponent details

Name	Matthew Parton
Job title	Director
Phone	0431 300 834
Email	matthew.parton@stromlo.com
Address	Level 11, 15 London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601

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	37001024095
Organisation name	JACOBS GROUP (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD
Organisation address	2060 NSW
Representative's name	Nikki Wallace
Representative's job title	Senior Associate Environmental Scientist
Phone	0415289480
Email	nikki.wallace@jacobs.com
Address	7/177 Pacific Highway

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	85672449204
Organisation name	DEVLINS BRIDGE WIND FARM HOLDCO PTY LTD
Organisation address	2601 ACT
Representative's name	Matthew Parton
Representative's job title	Director
Phone	0431 300 834
Email	matthew.parton@stromlo.com
Address	Level 11, 15 London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601

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

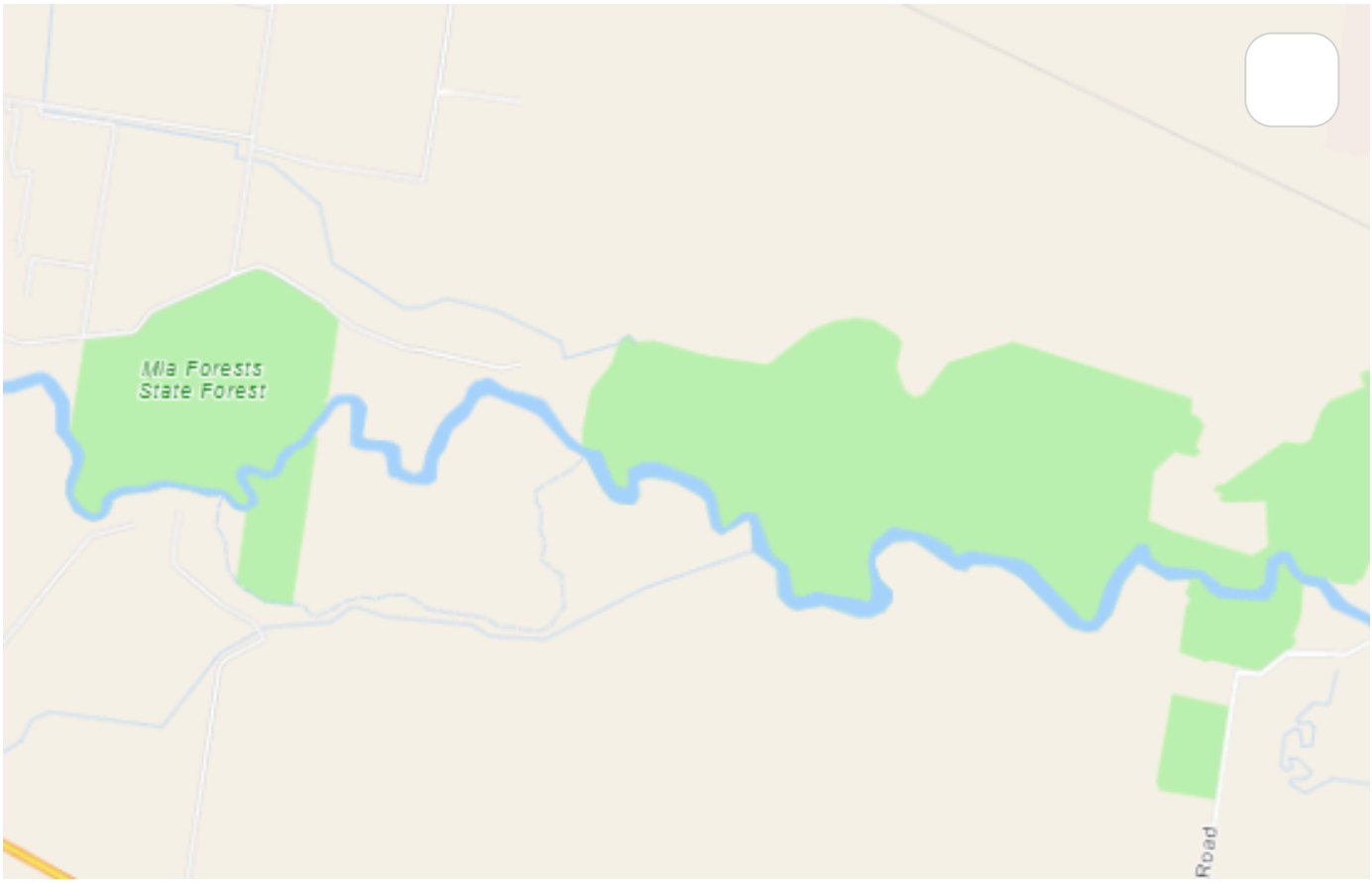
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

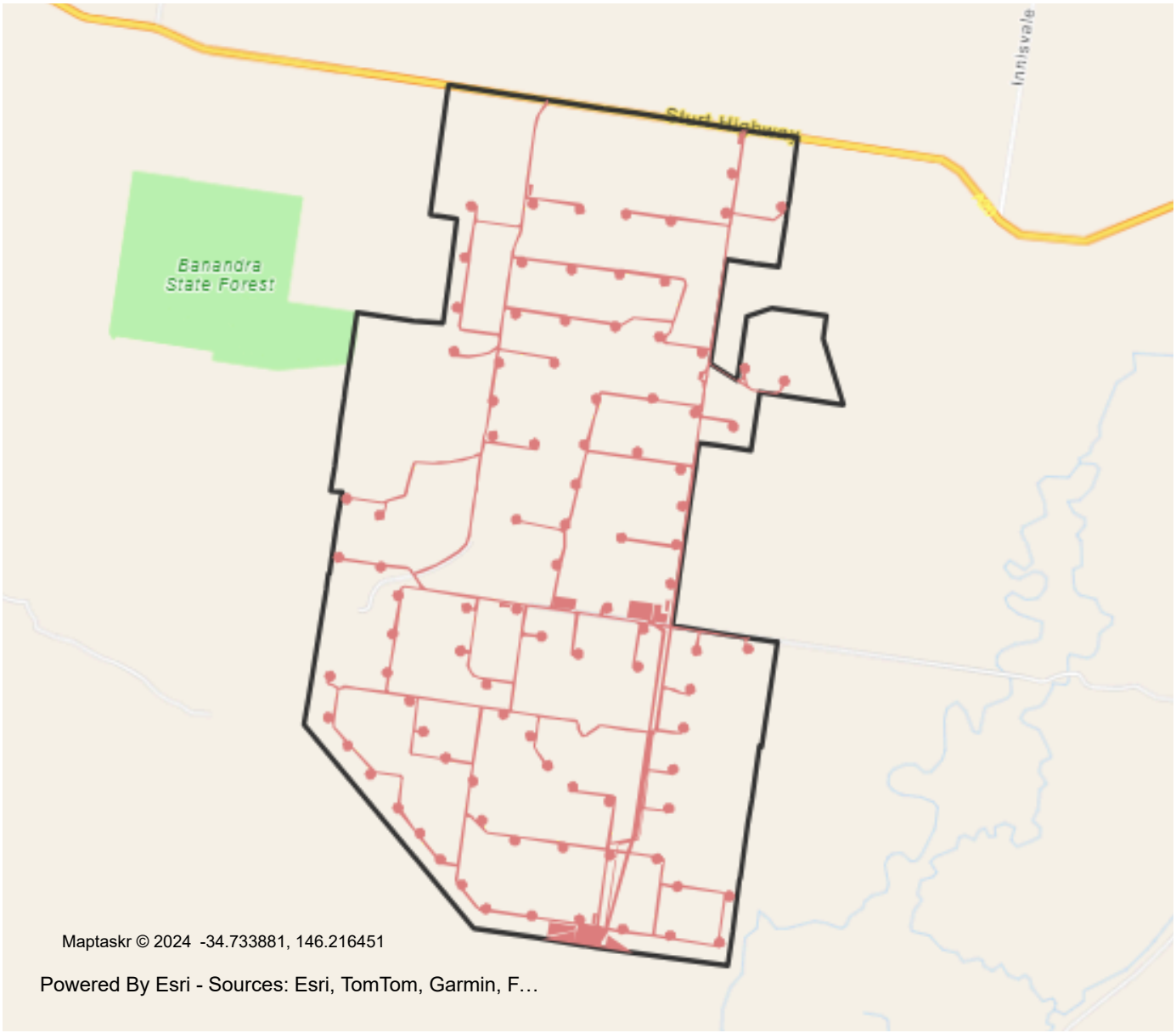
1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Person proposing to take the action

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint





2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

Plains West, 12249 Sturt Highway Euroley 2700

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? *

The Project area spans 12 freehold properties owned by private landowners. Private agreements have been negotiated with these landowners to host Project infrastructure on their respective properties.

There are also some Crown land parcels along some of the existing farm access tracks, these are unmade roads some of which are licenced to the Landowners. There are no areas mapped as Crown Reserves or Crown Leases within the Project area.

A search of the National Native Title Tribunal database on 14 May 2024, found that there are no Native Title claims currently registered in the Project area.

The location and addresses of each property are provided in Attachment 2 - Land Ownership and Properties - Sensitive, Page 1-2.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

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

The Project area is in the Riverina-Murray region, located entirely within the Narrandera Local Government Area (LGA). The Project area is bordered by the Sturt Highway to the north, Mundarra Road to the east and an existing 330 kV transmission line to the south and west. It is located about 17 kilometres south-west of the Leeton township, and approximately 22 kilometres west of the Narrandera township. Narrandera is at the intersection of the Newell Highway and the Sturt Highway, and is connected by the Hay-Junee Railway freight line to other nearby townships such as Yanco and Coolamon, eventually to Griffith. Griffith is located about 46 km north-west of the Project.

The Project area is zoned as RU1 – Primary Production under the Narrandera Local Environmental Plan 2013. The principal land uses in the Project area include dryland cropping, modified and native pasture grazing as well as irrigated horticulture.

The contemporary landscape is dominated by grazing and dryland cropping paddocks, including the physical structures associated with agricultural management such as roads, fences and farm infrastructure. Areas of the land predominantly along fence lines have been cleared for fire breaks. Grazing with sheep (predominantly) and cattle has had significant impact to the structure and diversity of vegetation communities in some instances. The Project area contains areas conducive to natural and derived native grasslands and various forms of woodlands (see Attachment 3 - Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Section 4.1, Page 13).

The Project area does not support significant waterways or creeks with only minor drainage lines and irrigation channels present. The exception is a second order ephemeral drainage line in the south-east corner of the Project area which drains to Washpen Creek. Yanco Creek occurs to the east of the Project area and is a significant distributary channel of the Murrumbidgee River. Yanco Creek has a broader floodplain and riparian zone dominated by River Red Gum woodland and floodplain wetlands. Low lying land sensitive to seasonally inundated/depressional wetlands (typical of Black Box, River Red Gum and treeless wetlands) exist within 5 km of the Project area, most notably Dry Lake.

The land surrounding the Project area is also zoned RU1 – Primary Production, except for a section of land adjoining the western boundary of the Project area which is zoned C1 – National Parks and Nature Reserves (South West Woodland Nature Reserve and the Banandra precinct of Murrumbidgee Valley National Park, both of which are National Parks and Wildlife Service estate).

An operational poultry farm (broiler chicken) owned by ProTen is located within the Project area, near the western boundary. The poultry farm contains five compounds (comprised of 16 sheds each) where broiler chickens are grown for human consumption. The poultry farm has an existing network of internal access tracks and an entry from the Sturt Highway. Further north of the poultry farm and spanning the western boundary of the Project area, there is an operational almond farm/orchard 'Belvedere', owned by Select Harvests. The proposed Yarrabee Solar Farm owned by Origin Energy is directly adjacent to the Project area to the south, which is currently an approved development awaiting construction.

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

Existing land uses within the Project area include agricultural purposes such as poultry farming, cropping (non-irrigated), grazing and horticulture.

The proposed use for the Project area is for the addition of wind energy generation as described in section 1.2.1 and continued farming uses.

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

The Project area is comprised of flat agricultural land with minimal elevation change and no prominent landscape or unique features.

There are no conservation areas within the Project area, however, the Banandra precinct of Murrumbidgee Valley National Park is located adjacent to the Project area and within 2.3 km of the closest proposed turbine. The Banandra precinct is not publicly accessible and includes grazing licence/licences within its management approach.

The Project area is not within an Area of Outstanding Biodiversity Value and there are no areas mapped on the Biodiversity Values Map.

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 Project area is located on predominantly flat land, with an elevation ranging from 120 to 140 metres above sea level.

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.

Based on a preliminary Biodiversity Constraints Assessment with field survey completed between 18-22 December 2023, and the first two seasons of Bird and Bat Utilisation Survey (BBUS) completed in February, March and May 2024, early mapping and validation of biodiversity values has been undertaken (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Fig 2, p21). The ground validated PCTs within the Project area include (Att 3, Table 2, pp 17-19):

- PCT 10: River Red Gum – Black Box woodland wetland of the semi-arid (warm) climatic zone
- PCT 13: Black box-lignum woodland of the inner floodplains in the semi- arid zone
- PCT 16: Black Box grassy open woodland wetland of rarely flooded depressions in south western NSW
- PCT 19: Cypress Pine woodland of source-bordering dunes mainly on the Murray and Murrumbidgee River floodplains
- PCT 26: Weeping Myall open woodland of the Riverina Bioregion and NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion
- PCT 28: White Cypress Pine open woodland of sand plains, prior streams and dunes mainly of the semi- arid (warm) climate zone
- PCT 44: Forb-rich Speargrass - Windmill Grass - White Top grassland of the Riverina Bioregion
- PCT 45: Plains Grass grassland on alluvial mainly clay soils in the Riverina Bioregion and NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion
- PCT 46: Curly Windmill Grass - speargrass - wallaby grass grassland on alluvial clay and loam on the Hay Plain, Riverina Bioregion
- PCT 74: Yellow Box – River Red Gum tall grassy riverine woodland of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion
- PCT 75: Yellow Box – White Cypress Pine grassy woodland on deep sandy- loam alluvial soils of the eastern Riverina Bioregion and western NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion

- PCT 80: Western Grey Box – White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion

The total area of each PCT within the Project disturbance footprint is yet to be fully determined. Detailed PCT mapping will be completed as part of Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) surveys for the project Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) during the EIS preparation phase. Precise ecological condition (i.e. vegetation zone condition states) for PCTs will also be quantified in the EIS.

Of relevance to this referral, a search of the Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) was undertaken for the Project area with a buffer of 10 km (Att 7-MNES PMST Results, all sections) to identify any matters of national environmental significance which may occur. These are discussed in Section 4.1.4.2 of this report in more detail. To provide a broader understanding of the flora and fauna within the Project area, a search of BioNet was also undertaken to 10 km for TECs and flora, and 25 km for fauna. A Likelihood of Occurrence assessment was then undertaken to determine which communities and species are likely to be present in the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Table 5, pp.34-49). The combined PMST and BioNet results are discussed below.

TECs

A total of 11 listed TECs were identified, of which 7 were considered to have a High likelihood of occurrence (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Table 5, pp.34-35):

- Weeping Myall Woodlands (Endangered) – associated with PCT 26
- White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (Critically Endangered) – associated with PCTs 74 and 75
- Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia (Endangered) – associated with PCT 80
- Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions (Endangered BC Act) – associated with PCT 80
- Myall Woodland in the Darling Riverine Plains, Brigalow Belt South, Cobar Peneplain, Murray-Darling Depression, Riverina and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions (Endangered BC Act) – associated with PCT 26
- White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland in the NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, South Eastern Highlands, South Western Slopes, South East Corner and Riverina Bioregions (Critically Endangered BC Act) – associated with PCT 74, 75
- Sandhill Pine Woodland in the Riverina, Murray-Darling Depression and NSW South Western Slopes bioregions (Endangered BC Act) – associated with PCT 19,20

No TECs were assessed to have a Medium likelihood of occurrence.

In addition, one TEC, while not predicted to occur by the PMST, is known to occur nearby as a result of previous surveys. This TEC has a high likelihood of occurrence within the Project area:

- Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains (Critically Endangered) – associated with PCTs 44, 45 and 46.

As a result, 8 TECs (4 EPBC Act, 4 BC Act)have been assessed as being likely to occur in the Project area.

Threatened species

Threatened species with the potential to occur within 10 km of the Project area are listed below:

Threatened flora species (Medium to High likelihood of occurrence):

- *Austrostipa wakoolica* (A Spear-grass)
- *Brachyscome muelleroides* (Mueller Daisy)

- *Caladenia arenaria* (Sand-hill Spider-orchid)
- *Cullen parvum* (Small Scurf-pea)
- *Lepidium monoplocoides* (Winged Pepper-cress)
- *Swainsona murrayana* (Slender Darling-pea, Slender Swainson, Murray Swainson-pea)
- *Swainsona sericea* (Silky Swainson-pea) – BC Act Vulnerable; only one with High Likelihood of Occurrence

Threatened fauna species (Medium to High likelihood of occurrence):

- *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Southern Whiteface) – EPBC Act and BC Act Vulnerable
- *Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus* (Dusky Woodswallow) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Botaurus poiciloptilus* (Australasian Bittern) – EPBC Act and BC Act Endangered
- *Burhinus grallarius* (Bush Stone-curlew) – BC Act EN
- *Callocephalon fimbriatum* (Gang-gang Cockatoo) – EPBC Act Endangered, BC Act Vulnerable
- *Circus assimilis* (Spotted Harrier) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Climacteris picumnus victoriae* (Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)) – EPBC Act and BC Act Vulnerable
- *Daphoenositta chrysoptera* (Varied Sittella) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Epthianura albifrons* (White-fronted Chat) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Falco subniger* (Black Falcon) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Gallinago hardwickii* (Latham's Snipe) – EPBC Act and BC Act Vulnerable
- *Grus rubicunda* (Brolga) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (White- bellied Sea-Eagle) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Hieraaetus morphnoides* (Little Eagle) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Lathamus discolor* (Swift Parrot) – EPBC Act Critically Endangered, BC Act Endangered
- *Lophoictinia isura* (Square-tailed Kite) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Lophochroa leadbeateri* (Pink Cockatoo) – EPBC Act Endangered, BC Act Vulnerable
- *Lophochroa leadbeateri leadbeateri* (Major Mitchell's Cockatoo) – EPBC Act Endangered, BC Act Vulnerable
- *Lophoictinia isura* (Square-tailed Kite) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Melanodryas cucullata cucullate* (South-eastern Hooded Robin) – EPBC Act and BC Act Endangered
- *Melithreptus gularis gularis* (Black-chinned Honeyeater)
- *Pedionomus torquatus* (Plains-wanderer) – EPBC Act Critically Endangered, BC Act Endangered
- *Petroica boodang* (Scarlet Robin) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Petroica phoenicea* (Flame Robin) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Polytelis swainsonii* (Superb Parrot) – EPBC Act and BC Act Vulnerable
- *Stagonopleura guttata* (Diamond Firetail) – EPBC Act and BC Act Vulnerable
- *Saccolaimus flaviventris* (Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Vespadelus baverstocki* (Inland Forest Bat) – BC Act Vulnerable
- *Litoria raniformis* (Southern Bell Frog) – EPBC Act Vulnerable, BC Act listed as Endangered
- *Crinia sloanei* (Sloane's Froglet) – EPBC Act & BC Act Endangered

In addition, the 37 bird species were recorded in the Project area during BBUS field surveys (Att 3- Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Table 6, pp.36-37). This included three threatened species:

- *Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus* (Dusky Woodswallow) – BC Act listed as Vulnerable
- *Polytelis swainsonii* (Superb Parrot) – EPBC Act and BC Act listed as Vulnerable
- *Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis* (Grey-crowned Babbler) – BC Act listed as Vulnerable

Migratory species

25 Migratory species were identified across both BioNet and PMST (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p38-46). Nine (Att 7-MNES PMST Results) listed migratory species (4 repeats and an additional 5) were identified in the PMST. None of these have a High likelihood of occurrence within the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p38-46). Two species, however, have a Medium likelihood of occurrence:

1. Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*
2. Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii* (repeated above)

Further field surveys targeting threatened and migratory species and those at risk of wind turbine collision will be conducted in accordance with the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) to inform the EIS.

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

The current vegetation across the Project area includes native grasslands (derived or natural) occupying approximately 3,000 hectares of the Project area being of varying conditions. No Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (BSAL) occurs within the Project area.

There are several woodland communities present within the northern portion of the Project area. These are generally restricted to riparian corridors, road corridors, patches in grazing lands and shelter belts where trees are either remnant or planted. Most of the open grassy woodlands are dominated by *Acacia pendula* (PCT 26). There is also considerable open to closed woodlands of Black Box *Eucalyptus largiflorens* (PCT 13 and PCT 16) and River Red Gum *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (PCT 10), particularly in frequently inundated areas. In slightly higher areas, or areas with sandy or loamy freely-draining soils, grassy woodlands with White Cypress Pine *Callitris glaucophylla* and Yellow Box *Eucalyptus melliodora* are dominant, comprising PCT 19, PCT 28, PCT 74 and PCT 75. Native vegetation condition is general moderate to low as a result of long-term farming uses such as livestock grazing and cropping. These land uses have resulted in structural changes (e.g. loss of understorey) and changes to species assemblages (e.g. loss of plant species richness and loss of ground dwelling mammal fauna in the critical weight range). Weed invasion as a result of grazing, soil disturbance and nutrient enrichment has also negatively affected the structure and composition of native vegetation.

Based on the Narrandera 1:250,000 Geological Map, the underlying geological formation of the Project area is Qrs Quaternary flood plains of black and red clayey silt, sand and gravel. Based on MinView NSW surface geology data, the Project area contains predominantly alluvial floodplain deposits with more clayey fine grained sand and silt to the east, associated with the riparian zones along Yanco Creek. Near the northern portion of the Project area there are also aeolian sand plains present.

Soils within the Project area are predominantly mapped as LSC Class-4 (moderate to severe limitations), Class-4 land generally has moderate capability, with moderate to severe limitations for land uses such as cropping, high-intensity grazing and horticulture.

3.3 Heritage

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

There are no Commonwealth heritage places or World heritage properties within 10 km of the Project area.

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

The Project area is located on Wiradjuri country. There are no Native Title claims or determinations relevant to the Project area.

An extensive search of the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database was undertaken in October 2023, and identified seven listed Aboriginal sites within the Project area. Aboriginal sites comprising hearths and modified trees are scattered across the central western portion of the Project area and one modified tree is located near the northern boundary (see Attachment 5 - AHIMS Extensive Search Report - REDACTED, all sections).

An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) and Archaeological Assessment will be undertaken as part of the EIS, including continued consultation with Indigenous stakeholders and Registered Aboriginal Parties. Further field surveys and assessment will be carried out in accordance with relevant NSW guidelines, including the recording of any sites that are identified through field survey.

3.4 Hydrology

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

The Project area is located on predominantly flat land within the Murrumbidgee River catchment. The prominent hydrological features associated with the Project area include an unnamed stream. While there are no major watercourses or natural water features within the Project area, there is a minor tributary located in the southeastern portion of the Project area which forms a second order unnamed ephemeral drainage line that flows south into the Washpen Creek.

There are minor man-made water features within the Project area including farm dams scattered around different properties and drainage channels concentrated at the site of the poultry farm. There is also a larger reservoir at the Belvedere almond farm located adjacent to the Project areas western boundary. There are also several depressional areas of pasture that are likely to be flooded during high rainfall events. These flood prone areas will be mapped and characterised during the detailed biodiversity surveys.

A search of the Australian Groundwater Explorer identified 16 registered boreholes within the Project area. Four of these are in close proximity to proposed infrastructure (GW416685, GW040957, GW032421 and GW059202).

Surface water

Specialist surface water and groundwater impact assessments will be undertaken as part of the EIS to provide further understanding of the hydrological characteristics of the Project area.

RAMSAR wetlands

There are no RAMSAR wetlands within 10 km of the Project area. The Fivebough and Tuckerbil swamps RAMSAR wetland is located approximately 20 km from the Project area and are not hydraulically or physically connected to the Project area.

Flooding

A review of the ePlanning Spatial Viewer indicates that the Project is not located within a Flood Planning Area. The extent of the Leeton Local Environment Plan (LEP) Flood Planning Area associated with the Murrumbidgee River floodplain is located 900 m north of the Project area.

Groundwater

The entire Project area is mapped as Groundwater Vulnerability – Environmentally Sensitive Land under the Narrandera LEP. As such, the Project must give consideration to section 6.5 of the Narrandera LEP prior to the issue of the development consent. The Project would seek to avoid impacting on the hydrological functions of key groundwater systems and impacting on vulnerable groundwater sources.

The relevant ground water management area and water sharing plan for the Project is the Water Sharing Plan for the Murrumbidgee Alluvial Groundwater Sources 2020, which covers the groundwater management area of Murrumbidgee Alluvial: Lower Murrumbidgee Shallow and Murrumbidgee Alluvial: Lower Murrumbidgee Deep.

Groundwater dependent ecosystems

A search of the Atlas of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) (Bureau of Meteorology, 2023b) identified very small portions of the Project area as terrestrial GDEs. The terrestrial GDEs are associated with the *River Red Gum – Black Box woodland wetland of the semi-arid (warm) climatic zone (mainly Riverina Bioregion and Murray Darling Depression Bioregion*). There are no aquatic GDEs mapped within the Project area. Potential impact to GDEs will be assessed further in the BDAR to be prepared as part of the EIS.

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. *

There are no World Heritage places in the vicinity of the Project/proposed action. The nearest World Heritage place is the Willandra Lakes Region, located more than 200 km north west of the proposed action. Therefore, the proposed action it is considered unlikely to have any direct and/or indirect impact due to the distance to the nearest World Heritage place.

4.1.2 National Heritage

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

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

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

—

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

No

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

There are no heritage items within 10 km of the Project area listed on the National Heritage List. Therefore, it is considered unlikely that the proposed action would impact on any National Heritage items due to the distance from the Project area.

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

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

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

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

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ramsar wetland
No	No	Banrock Station Wetland Complex
No	No	Fivebough and Tuckerbil Swamps
No	No	Hattah-Kulkyne Lakes
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. *

The Project area is not hydraulically or physically connected to any Ramsar wetland, therefore the proposed action is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact on the ecological character of a Ramsar wetland due to the distance and location of the Project area downstream. Impacts to migratory and water birds are considered separately.

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	Yes	Aphelocephala leucopsis	Southern Whiteface

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Aprasia parapulchella	Pink-tailed Worm-lizard, Pink-tailed Legless Lizard
Yes	No	Austrostipa wakoolica	
No	No	Bidyanus bidyanus	Silver Perch, Bidyan
Yes	Yes	Botaurus poiciloptilus	Australasian Bittern
Yes	No	Brachyscome muelleroides	Mueller Daisy
No	No	Brachyscome papillosa	Mossgiel Daisy
Yes	No	Caladenia arenaria	Sand-hill Spider-orchid
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami	South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo
Yes	Yes	Climacteris picumnus victoriae	Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern)
No	No	Craterocephalus fluviatilis	Murray Hardyhead
Yes	Yes	Crinia sloanei	Sloane's Froglet
No	No	Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon
No	Yes	Galaxias rostratus	Flathead Galaxias, Beaked Minnow, Flat-headed Galaxias, Flat-headed Jollytail, Flat-headed Minnow
Yes	Yes	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	Grantiella picta	Painted Honeyeater
No	No	Hemiaspis damelii	Grey Snake
No	No	Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot
No	No	Leipoa ocellata	Malleefowl
Yes	No	Lepidium monoplocoides	Winged Pepper-cress
No	Yes	Litoria raniformis	Southern Bell Frog,, Growling Grass Frog, Green and Golden Frog, Warty Swamp Frog, Golden Bell Frog
Yes	Yes	Lophochroa leadbeateri leadbeateri	Major Mitchell's Cockatoo (eastern), Eastern Major Mitchell's Cockatoo

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Maccullochella macquariensis	Trout Cod
No	No	Maccullochella peelii	Murray Cod
No	No	Macquaria australasica	Macquarie Perch
No	No	Maireana cheelii	Chariot Wheels
Yes	Yes	Melanodryas cucullata cucullata	South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern)
No	No	Neophema chrysostoma	Blue-winged Parrot
Yes	No	Nyctophilus corbeni	Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat
Yes	Yes	Pedionomus torquatus	Plains-wanderer
Yes	No	Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)	Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory)
Yes	Yes	Polytelis swainsonii	Superb Parrot
Yes	Yes	Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying-fox
No	No	Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe
No	No	Sclerolaena napiformis	Turnip Copperburr
Yes	Yes	Stagonopleura guttata	Diamond Firetail
Yes	No	Swainsona murrayana	Slender Darling-pea, Slender Swainson, Murray Swainson-pea
No	No	Swainsona plagiotropis	Red Darling-pea, Red Swainson-pea

Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
No	No	Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions
No	Yes	Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia
Yes	Yes	Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains
No	No	Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
Yes	Yes	Weeping Myall Woodlands
Yes	Yes	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. *

The construction, operation and decommissioning of the Project has the potential to result in impacts on nationally threatened flora, fauna and communities.

Project construction will require the clearing of native vegetation to provide for the proposed infrastructure, along with some minor earthworks and reshaping. This may result in direct and long-term impacts on the occurrence, extent and coverage of native vegetation and fauna habitat, including threatened species and ecological communities. It can also lead to indirect impacts including degradation of feeding, refuge and breeding habitat for native fauna, habitat fragmentation and loss of habitat connectivity. Other impacts may also include introduction of noxious weeds, sedimentation, erosion, impacts to water quality, and animal strike from vehicles.

Potential operational direct impacts to avifauna include collision with turbines and/or powerlines. Depending on local site usage, some species represent higher risk, having characteristics that elevate their risk profile, such as proximate areas of important habitat, susceptibility to known local threats, flocking in large numbers, poor manoeuvrability and capacity to forage within the rotor sweep area.

Decommissioning impacts would be similar to those of construction, but to a smaller scale.

Protected species and ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act that have been identified through the PMST (10 km buffer on the Project area) (Att 7-MNES PMST Results). Likelihood of occurrence assessments were then undertaken. All species and communities considered to have Medium-High likelihood of occurrence within the Project area are listed below, along with the nature and preliminary scale of potential impacts. This scale (in ha) has been based on preliminary mapping only (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Figure 2, p23) of PCTs.

Threatened Ecological Communities

Four of the 6 (5 PMST, 1 from previous survey) potential TECs (Section 1.3.2 of this referral) were considered to have a High likely occurrence in the Project area(Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 1, p34-35):

1. Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia (Endangered)
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation, weed encroachment
2. Weeping Myall Woodlands (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~33.15 ha of clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation, weed encroachment.

3. White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (Critically Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~19.50 ha of clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation, weed encroachment
4. Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains (Critically Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~108.21 ha of clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation, weed encroachment

Threatened species

41 threatened species were identified in the PMST report (Att 7-MNES PMST Results, p2-8).

None of the nine identified EPBC Act listed threatened flora species, were considered to have a High likelihood of occurrence (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Table 4, p33-33). 5 were considered to have a Medium likelihood of occurrence:

1. Spear Grass *Austrostipa wakoolica* (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~35.38 ha of riparian/woodland wetland clearing
2. Mueller Daisy *Brachyscome muelleroides* (EPBC Act and BC Act listed as Vulnerable)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~121.36 ha of grassland and floodplain swamp clearing
3. Sand-hill Spider-orchid *Caladenia arenaria* (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~123.5 ha of woodland/sandhill woodland clearing
4. Winged Pepper-cress *Lepidium monoplocoides* (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~35.38 ha of periodically inundated woodland clearing
5. Slender Darling-pea *Swainsona murrayana* (Vulnerable)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~119.46 ha of grassland clearing

Five of the 19 threatened bird species identified (Att 7-MNES PMST Results) were considered to have a High likelihood of occurrence in the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, Table 7, pp.38-47):

1. Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Vulnerable)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~111.02 ha of woodland clearing
2. Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies) *Climacteris picumnus victoriae* (Vulnerable)
    - Potential direct impacts: risk of turbine/powerline collisions; ~111.02 ha of woodland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation
3. Plains Wanderer *Pedionomus torquatus* (Critically Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~119.46 ha of grassland clearing; no mapped habitat within the Project area but is known to utilise PCT 44, 45, 46
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation
4. Superb Parrot *Polytelis swainsonii* (Vulnerable)
    - Potential direct impacts: risk of turbine/powerline collisions and ~0.15 ha of River Red Gum-Black Box woodland wetland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation
5. Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata* (Vulnerable)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~111.02 ha of woodland/woodland wetland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation

A further 4 species have a Medium likelihood of occurrence (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p38-47):

1. Australian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus* (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: turbine/powerline collisions
    - Potential indirect impacts: disruption of species behaviour
2. Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii* (Vulnerable)

- Potential direct impacts: risk of turbine/powerline collisions; ~35.38 ha of woodland wetland clearing
- Potential indirect impacts: disruption of species behaviour and habitat degradation/fragmentation

3. Major Mitchell's Cockatoo (eastern) *Lophochroa leadbeateri leadbeateri* (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: risk of turbine/powerline collisions; ~111.02 ha of woodland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation
4. South-eastern Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata cucullata* (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~111.02 ha of woodland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat and population degradation/fragmentation

None of the 3 identified mammal species (Att 7-MNES PMST Results) were considered to have a High likelihood of occurrence in the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p47-48). They have all been assessed as having a Medium likelihood:

1. Koala *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Endangered)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~111.02 ha of woodland clearing
2. Corben's Long-eared Bat *Nyctophilus corbeni* (Vulnerable; Species complex recorded within Project area during preliminary assessment)
    - Potential direct impacts: ~111.02 ha of woodland clearing
3. Grey-headed Flying-fox *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Vulnerable)
    - Potential direct impacts: risk of turbine/powerline collisions; ~111.02 ha of woodland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/fragmentation

One of the 2 amphibians identified (Att 7-MNES PMST Results) has been assessed as having a High likelihood of occurrence within the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p48); the other is Medium:

1. Southern Bell Frog Litoria raniformis (Vulnerable) High
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/siltation
2. Sloane's Froglet *Crinia sloanei* (Endangered) Medium
    - Potential direct impact: ~35.38ha woodland wetland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: habitat degradation/siltation

None of the 2 reptiles identified are likely to occur in the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p48) and therefore no impacts to reptiles are predicted as a result of the action.

None of the six fish identified (Att 7-MNES PMST Results) have been assessed to have a High likelihood to occur in the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p48-49). One species has also been identified in a search of the NSW DPI threatened freshwater species indicative population mapping. This has been assessed as having a Medium likelihood to occur within waterways in or adjacent to the Project area (eg Yanco Creek):

1. Flathead Galaxias *Galaxias rostratus* (Critically Endangered), mapped within Washpen Creek ~150 m east of Project area
    - Potential indirect impacts: water pollution/siltation

There are no Key Fish Habitat mapped within the Project area.

Migratory species

None of the 9 (Att 7-MNES PMST Results) listed migratory species (4 repeats and an additional 5) have a High likelihood of occurrence within the Project area (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 2, p38-47). 2 have a Medium likelihood of occurrence and High collision risk, giving them a high overall species risk:

1. Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

- Potential direct impacts: risk of turbine/powerline collisions
- Potential indirect impacts: disruption of species behaviour

2. Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*
    - Potential direct impacts: risk of turbine/powerline collisions; ~35.38 ha of woodland wetland clearing
    - Potential indirect impacts: disruption of species behaviour and habitat degradation/fragmentation

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. *

Construction activities can lead to direct and indirect impacts which include sedimentation and erosion, water quality impacts, noise and light pollution, weed infestation and vehicle collisions with wildlife. Collision with turbine with birds and bats are generally the primary operational impact associated with wind farms.

In the absence of any avoidance or mitigation measures implemented, Project-related impacts may result in a significant impact to threatened species and ecological communities where they are present within the Project area.

Impacts to the local population of flora and fauna species and TECs is possible depending on their extent and the Project's mitigation measures to be implemented. With reference to Matters of National Environmental Significance - Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, due to the early stage of design and ongoing biodiversity surveys it is considered appropriate to undertake a precautionary approach and consider the potential impacts to be significant. A preliminary Significant Impact Criteria (SIC) assessment has been carried out for Commonwealth threatened species most likely to be impacted by the Project (Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 3, p50).

Threatened flora

The five Commonwealth threatened flora most likely to be impacted by the Project (see Section 4.1.4.2 of this Referral) are listed as threatened under the EPBC Act. These species occur in restricted extents from temperate to semi-arid regions of south-eastern Australia. The main threats to these species include clearing for cropping or development, ongoing degradation, overgrazing, weed invasion and herbivory.

Some potential for a significant impact to threatened flora exists given that the proposed work may:

- Lead to the long term decrease of a population and reduce the areas of occupancy or fragment an existing population (including important populations)
- Disrupt the breeding cycle of a population, or species as a whole (including important populations).

TECs

The four Commonwealth TECs most likely to be impacted by the Project (see Section 4.1.4.2 of this Referral) are listed as threatened under the EPBC Act. These communities occur in restricted extents from temperate to semi-arid regions of south-eastern Australia (Figure 3). The main threats to these communities include clearing for cropping or development, ongoing degradation, overgrazing, weed invasion and herbivory.

There is some potential for significant impacts to TECs as a result of native vegetation clearing in these communities, given that the proposed work may:

- Lead to the long-term decrease in extent of a community
- Increase fragmentation of these communities.

Threatened and migratory fauna

The Commonwealth threatened fauna most likely to be impacted by the Project (see Section 4.1.4.2 of this Referral) could potentially be significantly impacted on the basis that the Project may possibly:

- Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population primarily due to moderate to high collision risks for species, and loss of grassland or woodland habitat
- Lead to a reduced area of occupancy for some species due to high collision risks and potential fatalities, or the barrier effects of a wind farm
- Lead to the long term decrease of an important population, reduce the areas of occupancy or fragment an existing important population
- Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population, the local population or species as a whole
- Interfere with the recovery of the species.

In addition, the Project is considered unlikely to significantly impact migratory species. Turbine strikes are not considered likely to occur at a rate or regular occurrence for migratory species, there are no known ecologically significant populations utilising the wetlands on site and there are no nationally or internationally important areas located within the Project area.

Detailed mitigation and adaptive management measures will be committed to as part of the Project to reduce the potential collision risk for migratory species.

Ecological targeted surveys have been initiated and are continuing along with bird and bat utilisation studies to support the EIS.

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 Project area contains threatened ecological communities and habitat for potentially occurring threatened flora and fauna that are listed under the EPBC Act. These matters, in the absence of avoidance and mitigation measures (as directed above), may be subject to a significant impact as a result of the Project.

A preliminary Significant Impact Criteria (SIC) assessment has been carried out for Commonwealth threatened species most likely to be impacted by the Project, in accordance with the Matters of National Environmental Significance: Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 (Commonwealth of Australia, 2013) (see Attachment 3 - Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 3, Page 50).

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. *

In terms of vegetation clearing, wind farms typically maintain a discrete linear disturbance footprint, for tracks, cabling, turbine sites and hardstands – particularly in flat topography such as in the Project area. As such the ability to minimise clearing and to microsite infrastructure to avoid higher value native vegetation where there is a suitable alternative is relatively high.

Constraints mapping is being used to concentrate impacts on more modified and low constraint areas so to reduce impacts on better condition higher value habitat and TEC areas. Detailed on ground surveys will inform this work. Further Project design development will consider the ecological constraints within the assessment corridor to maximise the avoidance and minimisation principles.

The construction and operation of the wind farm will be undertaken in accordance with several environmental management plans, (including a bird and bat adaptive management plan, vegetation management, erosion and sediment control, water quality and weed and pest), which will be developed to minimise environmental impacts. The plans are anticipated to be prepared as post-approval management plans.

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

State Significant Development projects must enter the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) and a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) will be required to assess biodiversity impacts following the Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020 (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2020). This is likely to trigger biodiversity offset liabilities for the Project in accordance with the BC Act (and potentially EPBC Act), with any offset obligations achieved by:

- Acquiring or retiring credits that are publicly available or setting up an onsite or offsite Stewardship Site under the BOS,
- Making payments into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund using the offsets payment calculator, or,
- Funding a biodiversity action that benefits the threatened entity(ies) impacted by the development.

As part of a BDAR, detailed ecological surveys, investigations and assessment will be undertaken including:

- Collection of floristic plot data.
- Confirmation of extent of all TECs present.
- Targeted surveys for candidate flora and fauna species.
- Full season bird and bat utilisation surveys.
- Assessment of all direct, indirect and prescribed impacts.
- Offset planning for unavoidable residual impacts.

The BOS and EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy (Commonwealth of Australia, 2012) will apply to the assessment, generating an offset requirement for the Project.

The Project will be required to demonstrate that avoidance has been considered to the maximum extent feasible. This will be an iterative process, as more site data is collected, and the Project layout is refined. Impacts that cannot be avoided will generate an offset obligation.

An offset strategy will be developed for the Project and is likely to include the establishment of Biodiversity Stewardship Sites to satisfy the Project’s offset credit obligations, this is believed to have the greatest local biodiversity outcome. This will completed by procuring land that has the potential to generate the required biodiversity credits, and partnering with landowners to manage an offset site on their land. Credits may be purchased some species if needed. The strategy will be developed and confirmed during the EIS process.

Any offset requirements will be satisfied as per the legal requirements and development conditions at the time of delivery.

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	Yes	Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris melanotos	Pectoral Sandpiper
Yes	Yes	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	Motacilla flava	Yellow Wagtail
No	No	Myiagra cyanoleuca	Satin Flycatcher
No	No	Tringa nebularia	Common Greenshank, Greenshank

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. *

A preliminary Significant Impact Criteria (SIC) assessment has been carried out for Commonwealth migratory species most likely to be impacted by the Project (see Attachment 3 - Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment, Appendix 3, Page 50).

A total of nine listed migratory species are predicted to occur within the Project area and/or search buffers. Those considered most likely to occur include:

- Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*
- Latham’s Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*

Potential wind turbine collision risks exist for a range of threatened migratory birds. These impacts will be assessed and quantified through detailed species and turbine risk assessments, and collision risk modelling (for birds only) during BDAR and EIS preparation.

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. *

The potential impacts on these migratory species includes direct mortality from collisions with turbines and powerlines, and the potential for the wind farm to act as a movement barrier between wetlands nearby. This barrier or alienation effect may alter the movement patterns of these species in the area and may therefore affect their ability to reach key habitat or resources.

However, the size of the distance between turbines would be large and species are generally likely to manoeuvre around the wind farm or individual turbines to move across the landscape. The project site is not an area of important or core habitat for migratory birds, species are likely to be in low numbers or vagrant and no significant impact is considered to occur for movement of migratory species.

Detailed bird and bat utilisation surveys and further assessment will inform species specific risk assessments and mitigation where required.

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. *

The Project is considered unlikely to significantly impact migratory species. Turbine strikes are not considered likely to occur at a rate or regular occurrence for migratory species, there are no known ecologically significant populations utilising the wetlands on site and there are no nationally or internationally important areas located within the Project area. Detailed mitigation and adaptive management measures will be committed to as part of the Project to reduce the potential collision risk for 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. *

Mitigation measures will be addressed in a detailed bird and bat adaptive management plan that considers habitat use, event-based or seasonal movements patterns of migratory species.

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

Offset measure have not yet been developed for migratory species.

4.1.6 Nuclear

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

No

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

The proposed action does not involve the handling or processing of radioactive material.

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. *

The proposed action will not be undertaken in or near a Commonwealth Marine Area.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

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

No

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

The proposed action is not in the vicinity of the Great Barrier Reef.

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

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

No

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

The proposed action is a wind farm and does not involve water resources in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas.

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. *

The proposed action will not be located on any Commonwealth Land.

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 will not be located on or near any Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

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

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

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

- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

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

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

4.3 Alternatives

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

No

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

The Project aims to progress as fast as possible, subject to assessment and approval requirements, to align with State emissions targets of 50% by 2030.

The Project area has the features required for a viable wind farm and was selected due to the following favourable characteristics:

- A reliable wind resource and access to this wind resource consistently across the Project Area,
- Proximity to existing electricity transmission infrastructure,
- Alignment with strategic plans for the wider region,
- History of cleared non-irrigation agricultural use, resulting in generally homogenous agricultural land within and surrounding the Project Area
- The Project being compatible with existing pastoral land uses, with minimal impact to current agricultural activities,
- Proximity to the existing public road network and access to several existing internal roads,
- Low residential dwelling density for the Project surrounds.

The following alternatives were considered to meet Project objectives

- Option 1: No Development Option
  - No consideration for a wind energy development connecting into the existing 330 kV Darlington Point to Wagga Wagga transmission line
- Option 2: Tubbo Station Option
  - Up to 100 WTGs located to the west of the proposed Project area, connecting into the existing 330 kV Darlington Point to Wagga Wagga transmission line
- Option 3: Tarrabah Station Option
  - Up to 100 WTGs located to the south of the proposed Project area, connecting into the existing 330 kV Darlington Point to Wagga Wagga transmission line
- Option 4: Yarrabee Park Station Option
  - Up to 100 WTGs located to the south of the proposed Project area, connecting into the existing 330 kV Darlington Point to Wagga Wagga transmission line
- Option 5: Project Build Option
  - Up to 94 WTGs located within the Project area.

Option 1 (No development option) does not meet NSW needs for generation capacity or the Applicant's strategic and commercial objectives to deliver 4 GW of wind in NSW by 2030 and therefore was not considered further.

The remaining options were considered due to:

- Comparable wind resource and access to this wind resource consistently across the Project areas
- Proximity to existing electricity transmission infrastructure
- Alignment with strategic plans for the wider region.

While the remaining options would meet NSW needs for generation capacity, options 2, 3 and 4 were considered further and found to be less suitable due to the following reasons:

- Option 2 did not meet environmental requirements (increased impact to large extents of high value ecology areas, including black box open woodland wetland, white top grassland of the Riverina Bioregion and Plains Wanderer habitat)
- Option 2, 3 and 4 all present straightforward partner negotiations, consisting of a single primary host counterpart, however these options raised the risk of inequitable/consolidated landowner revenues (principally a failure to equitably include or benefit adjacent properties/landowners)
- Option 3 did not have appropriate land use, adding complexity with the property being certified organic. It was acknowledged that the required co-location/integration works would require a range of bespoke approaches, potentially delaying development progress
- Option 4 did not have appropriate land use, presenting complexity with an existing approved solar farm development under agreement (permitted until 2025[1]);

Option 5 (the Project) was selected as the preferred option due to:

- Majority of the Project area being historically cleared for non-irrigation agricultural use, presenting homogenous agricultural land within and surrounding the Project Area.
- The Project being compatible with existing pastoral land uses, with minimal impact to current farming activities anticipated during both construction and operation of the Project
- Proximity to the existing transmission network, and ability to offer a shared connection asset to adjacent developments, such as Yarrabee Solar farm
- Proximity to the existing public road network and access to multiple existing internal access tracks
- With consideration of the proximity impacts to near Project neighbours, the Project has limited the number of impacted stakeholders, with only four non-associated dwellings within 5,000 m (closest non-associated dwelling is 2,600 m from a turbine)
- With consideration of the ecology and habitat values of the Murrumbidgee River, the Project has avoided placing turbines within 6,000 m of this waterway
- With consideration of the ecology and habitat values of Yanco Creek, the Project has avoided placing turbines within 2,500 m of this waterway
- With consideration of the South West Woodland Reserve and Murrumbidgee Valley National Park, the Project has avoided placing turbines within 1,500 m of park and reserve boundaries

The Project has been progressed through the integration of social, environmental, heritage, and economic considerations while developing the Project to minimise potential impacts and conserve or enhance the beneficial outcomes for the local community. This objective aligns with the concepts of Australia's National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development. The final disturbance footprint will be included within the EIS and further refined based on findings of the supporting technical studies (including biodiversity, Aboriginal heritage, visual amenity and noise and vibration).

As part of the ongoing project refinement, the following principles will be followed:

- Minimisation of vegetation clearance
- Only impacting areas already disturbed where feasible
- Minimise both direct and indirect impacts to neighbours and other sensitive receivers
- Avoid and protect items of Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Flexible design approach to respond to environmental constraints as they are identified

[1] Yarrabee Solar Farm, https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/yarrabee-solar-farm

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1-Proposed Project Layout.pdf Proposed Project Layout	23/05/2024	No	High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 8 - DBWF Consultation Report - REDACTED.pdf Consultation report	08/06/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 9 - Social Impact Scoping Report.pdf Social impact scoping report	15/04/2024	No	High

1.3.2.16 (Person proposing to take the action) Nature of the trust arrangement in relation to the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 6-Trust Deed - Sensitive.pdf		Yes	

2.2.5 Tenure of the action area relevant to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2-Land Ownership and Properties - Sensitive.pdf Land ownership and property addresses relevant to the Project	23/05/2024	Yes	High

3.1.1 Current condition of the project area's environment

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 3-Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment.pdf Preliminary biodiversity assessment report	04/07/2024	No	High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 7-MNES PMST Results.pdf Protected Matters Search Tool Results	09/04/2024	No	High

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitive	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 4-AHIMS Extensive Search Report - Sensitive.pdf Sensitive information - AHIMS Extensive Search Report	15/11/2023	Yes	High
#2.	Document	Att 5-AHIMS Extensive Search Report - REDACTED.pdf Redacted AHIMS Extensive Search Report	15/11/2023	No	High

5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

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

ABN/ACN	37001024095
Organisation name	JACOBS GROUP (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD
Organisation address	2060 NSW
Representative's name	Nikki Wallace
Representative's job title	Senior Associate Environmental Scientist
Phone	0415289480
Email	nikki.wallace@jacobs.com
Address	7/177 Pacific Highway

☑ 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, **Nikki Wallace of JACOBS GROUP (AUSTRALIA) 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	85672449204
Organisation name	DEVLINS BRIDGE WIND FARM HOLDCO PTY LTD
Organisation address	2601 ACT
Representative's name	Matthew Parton
Representative's job title	Director
Phone	0431 300 834
Email	matthew.parton@stromlo.com
Address	Level 11, 15 London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601

☑ 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, **Matthew Parton of DEVLINS BRIDGE WIND FARM HOLDCO 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, **Matthew Parton of DEVLINS BRIDGE WIND FARM HOLDCO 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. *