

Collie Green Steel Mill

Application Number: **02143**Commencement Date:
26/11/2023Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Collie Green Steel Mill

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Manufacturing

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

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1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/10/2024

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/12/2026

1.2 Proposed Action details

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

Green Steel of Western Australia Collie Pty Ltd (GSWA) propose to develop the Collie Green Steel Mill and associated infrastructure (the Proposal) at 154 Boys Home Road, Palmer (Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 74040) (Attachment 1 - Figure 1).

The Collie Green Steel Mill will be **Western Australia's first steel mill** as well as the first new steel mill to be constructed in Australia in over 30 years.

Using well proven, advanced electric arc furnace technology, the Plant will **recycle 500,000 tonnes of WA scrap steel** (all of which is currently exported), converting it into low carbon intensity (green) reinforcing bar or rebar for local consumption. In doing so, the plant will create for the first time, a true a **circular economy for steel** in WA while abating between **200,000 and 800,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions per annum** compared to existing methods of steel production.

The Proposal will create **over 500 long term, highly skilled jobs for workers most impacted by Collie's energy transition** (coal mining and power generation workers), thus playing a significant role in helping one of WA's most iconic towns achieve a Just Transition.

The Proposal has and continues to receive strong support from WA State Government as it aligns with many of the State's policies and objectives including promoting local manufacturing, regional job creation and decarbonisation. To this effect, we have attached a letter of support from the WA Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI) (Attachment 2).

The Proposal area is located approximately 5 km northeast of the Collie townsite (Attachment 1 - Figure 1). The Proposal will be developed for the purpose of construction of an electric arc furnace steel mill (the Plant) that will recycle up to 500,000 tonnes per year of scrap steel to produce up to 450,000 tonnes per year of reinforcing bar (rebar) and wire rod as the final product for local consumption/ export and up to 65,000 tonnes per year of synthetic rock (waste slag) that will be reused as aggregate for road base.

The Proposal is located within the Coolangatta Industrial Estate in the Shire of Collie and comprises land generally between the Bluewaters Power Station, Griffin Coal's Ewington open cut mine and the Collie State Forest (Attachment 1 - Figure 2).

The Proposal area is approximately 111.1 hectares (ha), including a disturbance footprint of up to 41.5 ha (clearing of native vegetation) and avoidance footprint of 0.3 ha (native vegetation avoided by directional drilling). It is proposed to clear up to 41.5 ha of native vegetation within the 111.1 ha Proposal area for construction of the Plant, access roads, rail and water pipeline (Attachment 1 - Figure 2). The remainder of the Proposal area is mapped as 0.3 ha of Melaleuca scrub, which has been avoided by using directional drilling construction methods, and 69.3 ha of Paddock (Completely Degraded) and Road/ Rail/ Tracks (Cleared).

The Proposal area is currently being used for agricultural purposes, in particular grazing. The section of the site where the rail extension is to be built passes through an area of Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) managed Collie State Forest (Part Lot 1486 on Plan 110882, part Lot 1505 on Plan 110876 and part Land ID 4035609). A water pipeline will also be constructed within an existing Western Power easement (Portion of Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278) to the west of Lot 2 (Attachment 1 - Figure 2).

Development of the Proposal will commence in Q4 2024 subject to receipt of a Final Investment Decision and required Commonwealth and State approvals. Initial production is scheduled to commenced in Q4 2026. The majority of the Plant will be hard surfaced with buildings, concrete/ bitumen, access roads with minimal areas of open ground and vegetation.

The construction activities include the following, refer attachment 1, figure 2:

- Bulk earthworks for the construction of the plant and rail infrastructure will impact threatened Black Cockatoo species through the clearing of 41.5 ha native vegetation, 38.5 ha of which is Black Cockatoo foraging habitat. For further details of the impact please refer to section 4 of the submission.
- Construction of a uniform graded pad and extension of the Rail spur (refer to attachment 1, figure 2 for the footprint).
- The access road from the public road network to the plant site will involve widening and bitumen sealing the existing road that follows this route.

- Construction of a buried water pipeline will be done by shallow trenching and a section of directional drilling to avoid clearing of 0.3 ha of native vegetation. All trenching will be completely on degraded or cleared land.
- Construction of the steel mill including; foundations, building structures, equipment installation, hardstands, internal and external finishes.
- The development of a 330 KV powerline connecting to the Plant will be undertaken by Western Power and is separate to this Proposal.

During construction, the main entry/exit point for the Plant will be through the existing access road within Lot 2. As part of the works, this road access will be widened to meet operational requirements.

At operation the main entry/exit points for road transport will follow the same route as during construction but on the widened access road. Scrap metal feedstock, rebar and consumables will mainly be transported on rail via the new extended rail spur.

Refer to:

Attachment 1 – Figures

Attachment 2 – WA Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation – letter of support for the Proposal (Restricted from public review due to third-party information - redacted copy provided)

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 Proposal will require planning and environmental approvals under the following Commonwealth and State legislation:

- Commonwealth
 - This referral to DCCEEW under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). Relevant guidelines include:
 - Matters of National Environmental Significance Significant impact guidelines 1.1 *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth of Australia, 2013)
 - Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*), Baudin's Cockatoo (*Zanda baudinii*) and the Forest Red-tailed Black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*) (DAWE, 2022).
- WA State
 - Following consultation with WA Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and Department of Environmental Regulation and Water (DWER) Industry Regulation Branch, this Proposal will require not referral under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) but will be assessed under the EP Act Part V pathway.
 - DWER - applications under the EP Act:
 - A Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) under Part V section 51E of the EP Act is required to clear up to 41.4 ha of native vegetation within the Proposal area
 - A Works Approval application under Part V section 54(1)(a) of the EP Act is required for the following prescribed premises categories:

- Category 45 - Metal melting or casting: premises on which metal or scrap metal is melted in furnaces or cast
 - Category 62 - Solid waste depot: premises on which waste is stored, or sorted, pending final disposal or re-use.
- DWER - applications under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (CAWS Act):
 - Vegetation within Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278 is protected under the CAWS Act.
 - Consultation with DWER has indicated that a CAWS Act Licence to Clear is not necessary for the Proposal, subject to the necessary approvals under the EP Act Part V being granted.
 - Previous advice from DWER indicated that a Licence to Clear may be necessary, however the amendments made by GSWA to the construction methods for the establishment of the water pipeline within Lot 116 and the referral of the proposal to DWER for a concurrent EP Act Part V clearing permit means that GSWA is exempt from a CAWS Act Licence to Clear because:
 - The Proposal is exempt under the CAWS Act Regulations 1981 s13(f) if the EP Act Permit is granted
 - There is to be no clearing of CAWS Act compensated vegetation within Lot 116.
- State Planning Policies:
 - State Planning Policy 2.0 - Environment and natural resources policy
 - State Planning Policy 3.7 - Planning in bushfire prone areas
 - State Planning Policy 2.9 - Water resource
- Local Planning Framework - Shire of Collie
 - The Proposal area is located within the Coolangatta Industrial Estate in the Shire of Collie. The majority of the Proposal area is zoned as "Industrial Development" within Special Control Area (SCA) 8 (Coolangatta Industrial Estate) under the Shire of Collie Local Planning Scheme No. 6.
 - A Development Application, under the *Planning and Development Act 2005* for approval for all use and development within SCA6 - Collie Power Station Buffer, SCA 8 Coolangatta Industrial Estate Buffer and SCA 3 - Basic Raw Materials, has been approved by the Shire of Collie and Joint Regional Development Assessment Panel unanimously on 16 May 2024. The following documents have been prepared as supporting information for the Development Application and environmental approvals:
 - Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey
 - Targeted Camera Trap Fauna Survey
 - Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment
 - Bushfire Management Plan and Risk Assessment
 - Surface Water Management Plan
 - Transport Impact Statement
 - Acoustic Assessment
 - Air Quality Assessment
 - Greenhouse Gas Assessment
 - Dangerous Goods Compliance Assessment (Stage 1: Preliminary Review).

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. *

GSWA has undertaken extensive community and stakeholder engagement as part of developing the Proposal. The extent of engagement undertaken is described in Attachment 3.

GSWA together with Collie based engagement consultant, Gumfire Consultants, developed a Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan that were underpinned by the International Association for Public Participation's (IAP2) Core Values and Public Participation Spectrum (IAP2, 2023).

Community and stakeholder engagement was designed to encourage feedback, understand the Collie community's context and facilitate the creation of positive long-term relationships.

GSWA's engagement practices acknowledge the importance of having a local presence where possible (through an embedded Collie resource), enabling multiple opportunities to connect to community. It should be recognised that the Proposal is in early development and further engagement with community stakeholders will occur through to construction of the Proposal. As a potential major employer of the Collie district, GSWA intends to build lasting relationships with the Collie community well into the Proposal's operation.

On 6 December 2023, GSWA carried out a community dropped in session at Black Diamond Lodge to get feedback on the design of the proposed steel mill. The session was attended by a range of members of the public; Shire of Collie Councillors, Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry, industry representatives, local community, and union representative. The Proposal received strong support from the attendees with encouragement to further promote the Proposal in the local community. No issues was raised directly with the proposed design; the site layout, noise impact, infrastructure services, road, air quality and traffic. Much of the discussion was focused on the supporting services in the operation of the steel mill, key areas as listed below:

- Workers' wages packages
- Diversity of the workforce
- Traineeship opportunities
- Future expansion
- Water and electricity usage
- Investment opportunities
- Keeping the local community up to date on the project progress.

GSWA has engaged extensively with the Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation (GKB) including taking senior members (the Chairman and Environmental / Heritage lead) on a visit of the site on 21 February 2024. GSWA is in the process of entering into an MOU with GKB to promote jobs for Aboriginal people and their businesses as well as working to ensure protection of land and country.

On 20 April 2024, GSWA participated the Just Transition Industry Expo at Collie organised by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet's Just Transition Working Group. The Proposal received a strong positive feedback and support from the community.

Refer to:

Attachment 3 – Stakeholder Engagement Activities

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

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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	39008488373
Organisation name	GHD PTY LTD
Organisation address	2000 NSW
Referring party details	
Name	Vicki Davies
Job title	Senior Environmental Scientist
Phone	61 8 9840 5104
Email	Vicki.Davies@ghd.com
Address	999 Hay Street Perth WA 6000

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	668113728
Organisation name	GREEN STEEL OF WA COLLIE PTY LTD
Organisation address	'U19 L2', 100 Railway Road, SUBIACO WA 6008

Person proposing to take the action details

Name	Azlan Ho
Job title	Managing Director
Phone	0402 164 560
Email	azlan.ho@greensteelwa.com.au
Address	Level 28, 140 St Georges Terrace, Perth 6000

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. *

Green Steel of WA Collie Pty Ltd (GSWA) will be the entity / organisation proposing to take action for developing Collie Green Steel Mill. Our purpose is to create a sustainable steel manufacturing industry for Western Australia.

GSWA has had no actions brought against it in relation to its environmental performance under Commonwealth legislation.

The Person Proposing has a satisfactory record of responsible environment management.

GSWA has a satisfactory record of responsible environment management.

GSWA has not been the subject of any proceedings under a State or Territory law for the protection of the environment, conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

GSWA has not previously submitted a EPBC Act referral to the Commonwealth.

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

Please refer Attachment 11 for a copy of the GSWA's 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 668113728

Organisation name GREEN STEEL OF WA COLLIE PTY LTD

Organisation address 'U19 L2', 100 Railway Road, SUBIACO WA 6008

Proposed designated proponent details

Name Azlan Ho

Job title Managing Director

Phone 0402 164 560

Email azlan.ho@greensteelwa.com.au

Address Level 28, 140 St Georges Terrace, Perth 6000

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 39008488373

Organisation name GHD PTY LTD

Organisation address 2000 NSW

Representative's name Vicki Davies

Representative's job title Senior Environmental Scientist

Phone 61 8 9840 5104

Email Vicki.Davies@ghd.com

Address 999 Hay Street Perth WA 6000

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	668113728
Organisation name	GREEN STEEL OF WA COLLIE PTY LTD
Organisation address	'U19 L2', 100 Railway Road, SUBIACO WA 6008
Representative's name	Azlan Ho
Representative's job title	Managing Director
Phone	0402 164 560
Email	azlan.ho@greensteelwa.com.au
Address	Level 28, 140 St Georges Terrace, Perth 6000

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

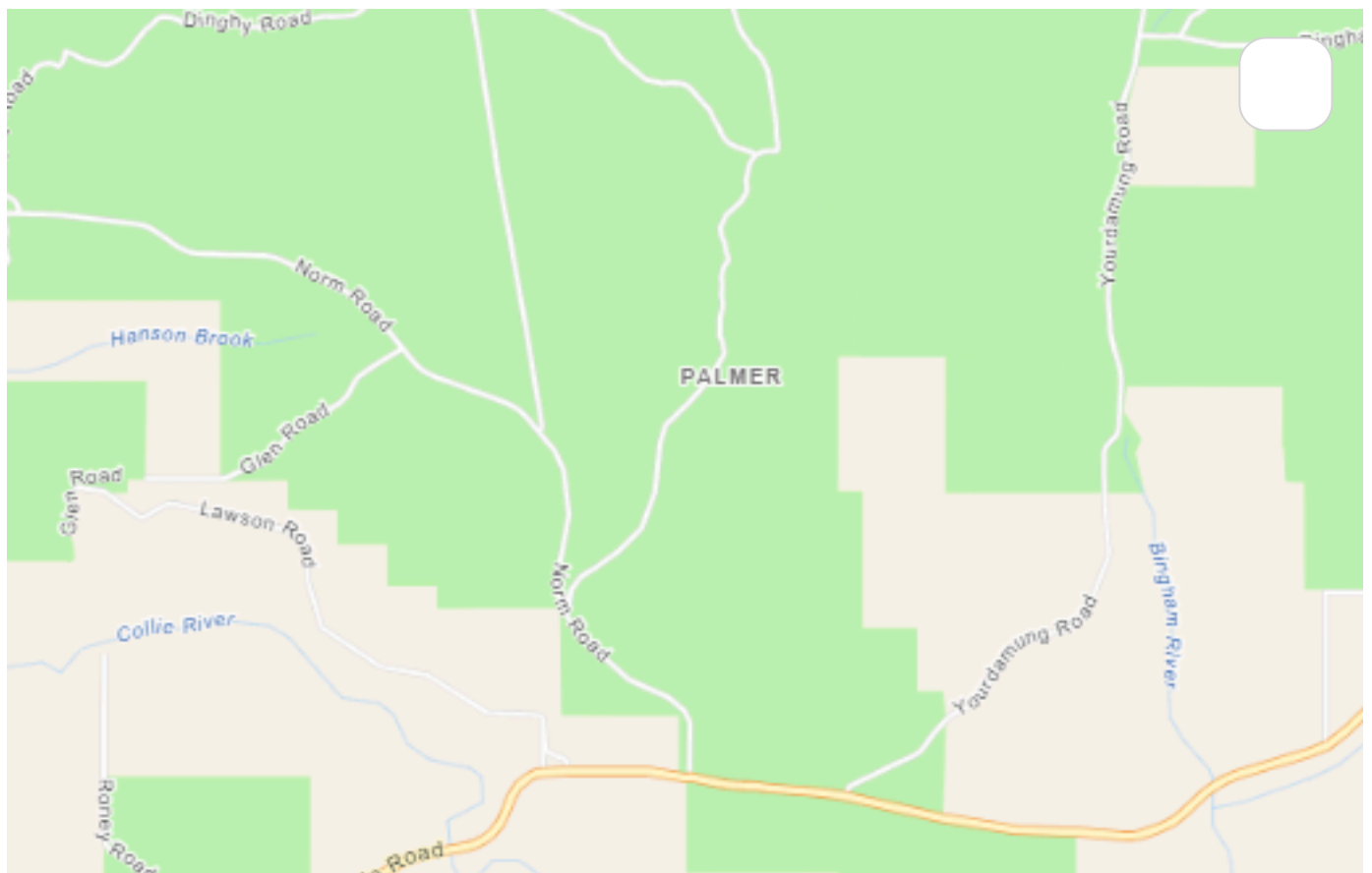
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

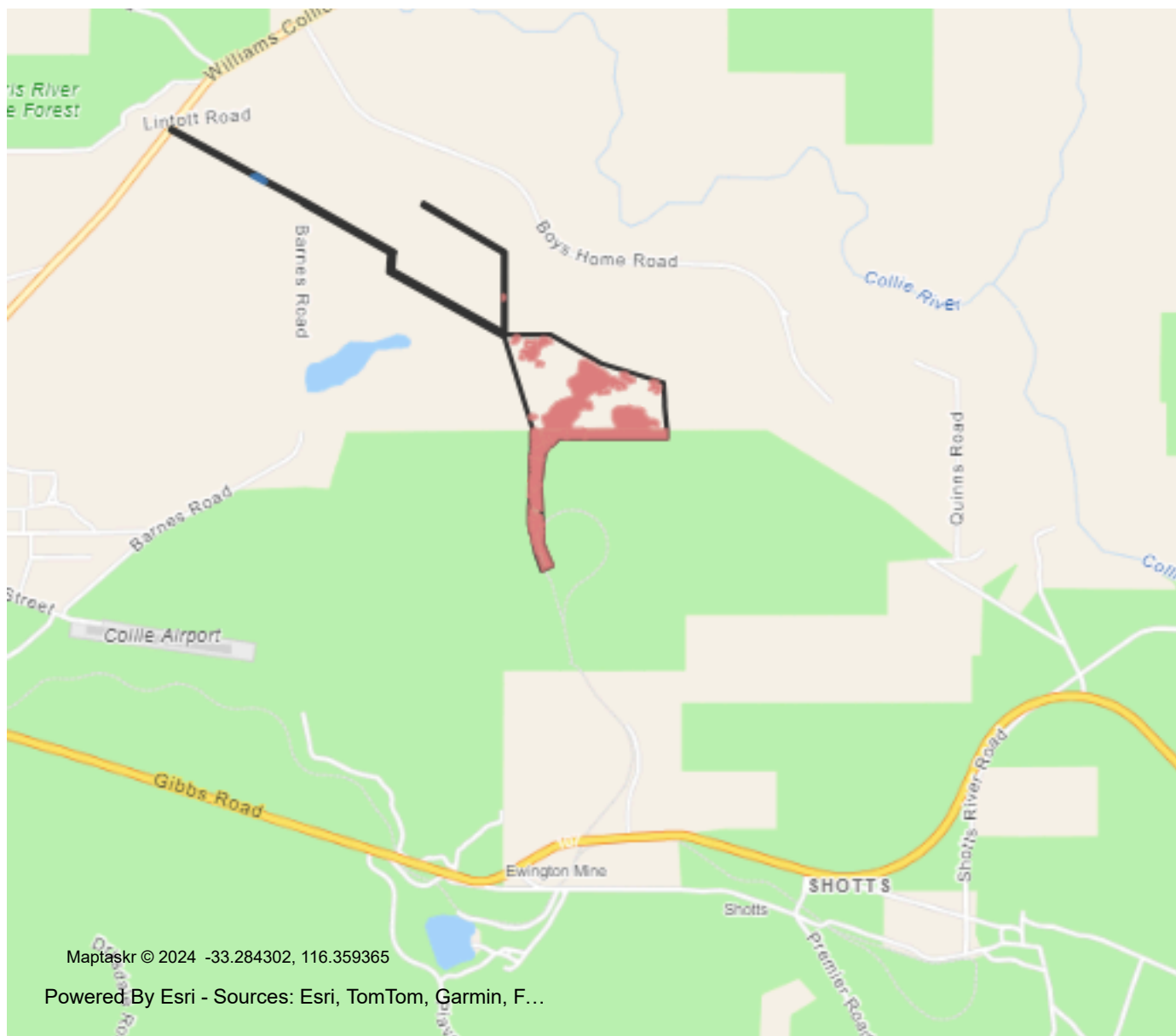
1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Person proposing to take the action

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint





Project Area: 111.11 Ha **Disturbance Footprint:** 41.54 Ha **Avoidance Area:** 0.25 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

154 Boys Homes Road, Palmer 6225

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

Western Australia

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? *

Proposal area location

The Proposal area is located approximately 5 km northeast of the Collie townsite within the Coolangatta Industrial Estate in the Shire of Collie, Western Australia (Attachment 1 - Figure 1). The Proposal area includes Part 154 Boys Home Road, Palmer (Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 74040), Part Lot 1486 P110882, Part Lot 1505 P110876, Part Land ID 4035609, Part Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278 (Attachment 1 - Figure 2).

Zoning

The majority of the Proposal area is zoned, under the Shire of Collie Local Planning Scheme No. 6, as “Industrial Development” with the Plant located in Part Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 74040 (154 Boys Home Road, Palmer) (Attachment 1 - Figure 3).

A proposed rail spur is located within land zoned as “State Forest” (Collie State Forest) (Part Lot 1486 on Plan 110882, Part Lot 1505 on Plan 110876 and Part Land ID 4035609) and a water pipeline in an easement zoned as “Rural” (Part Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278) (Attachment 1 - Figure 3).

Land ownership and tenure

The Plant site and road access will be located within Lot 2 under a lease arrangement with the private land owner of Bluewaters Farm Holdings and has given authority to access the site and apply for State and Commonwealth clearing approvals (Attachment 4).

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) has provided authorisation for GSWA to lodge clearing permit applications within the Collie State Forest to the south of Lot 2 for the rail extension (Attachment 4). Access to the land will also be provided for and governed by a separate access agreement between the parties. This agreement is currently being established in consultation with GSWA, DBCA and Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI).

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has given permission to lodge applications for State and Commonwealth clearing approvals for the portion of Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278, with support from Western Power to access their easement (MU-CO 71 LINE) to install the water pipeline (Attachment 4).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 – Figures

Attachment 4 – Authority to access (Restricted from public review due to third-party information - redacted copy provided)

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

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

The 111.1 ha Proposal area includes:

- Up to 41.5 ha of native vegetation proposed to be cleared for the purpose of construction of the Proposal
- Approximately 0.3 ha of Melaleuca scrub, which has been avoided by using directional drilling construction methods
- Approximately 69.3 ha of Paddock (Completely Degraded) and Road/ Rail/ Tracks (Disturbed/ Cleared).

The Proposal area includes nine vegetation units (Attachment 1 - Figure 4), as described in the Detailed and Targeted flora and vegetation survey (Onshore Environmental, 2024b) (Attachment 6, Section 3.5, pages 26-39), which is in Completely Degraded to Very Good Condition (Attachment 1 - Figure 5) (Attachment 6, Section 3.6, page 40).

The native vegetation proposed to be cleared is mapped as the following fauna habitat types, with varying Black Cockatoo foraging values (Onshore Environmental, 2024a) (Attachment 7, Section 3.1, pages 8-10):

- Jarrah-Sheoak Forest (15.5 ha) – High quality Black Cockatoo foraging habitat
- Parkland cleared Jarrah Forrest remnant (20.0 ha) – High quality Black Cockatoo foraging habitat
- Paddock (3.0 ha) – Low quality Black Cockatoo foraging habitat

The remaining 3.0 ha is mapped as Disturbed and includes regrowth of native vegetation, which has been previously cleared for powerline easements, rail and road access in the Collie State Forest to the south of Lot 2 (Onshore Environmental, 2024a).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 – Figures

Attachment 6 – Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey (Onshore Environmental, 2024b)

Attachment 7 – Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment (Onshore Environmental, 2024a)

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

The Proposal area is located approximately 5 km northeast of the Collie townsite within the Coolangatta Industrial Estate in the Shire of Collie, Western Australia (Attachment 1 - Figure 2).

The current land use includes the following (Attachment 1 - Figure 2):

- Part Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 74040 is disturbed agricultural land including paddocks, access roads and native vegetation (understorey grazed)
- Existing Western Power easement (Part Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278)
- Remnant native vegetation within the Collie State Forest.

The Proposal area is located in the Coolangatta Industrial Estate of which the majority is zoned, under the Shire of Collie Local Planning Scheme No. 6, as “Industrial Development”, with the Plant located in Part Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 74040 (154 Boys Home Road, Palmer) (Attachment 1 - Figure 3).

A proposed rail spur is located within land zoned as “State Forest” (Collie State Forest) (Part Lot 1486 on Plan 110882, Part Lot 1505 on Plan 110876 and Part Land ID 4035609) and a water pipeline in an easement zoned as “Rural” (Part Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278) (Attachment 1 - Figure 3).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

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

Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) are identified and protected under the Environmental Protection (Environmentally Sensitive Areas) Notice 2005 (WA). Under the Notice, it is an offence to kill or destroy vegetation within an ESA without relevant approval or exemption under Schedule 6 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Mapping undertaken by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) identifies an ESA mapped approximately 13 km north of the Proposal area and is associated with the archived Register of the National Estate – Surface Management Priority Area, Asquith Road, Treesville, WA (DCCEEW, 2023c). There are no ESAs mapped within the Proposal area (Attachment 1 - Figure 6).

The Proposal area intersects the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) managed Collie State Forest (Class A) to the south including parts of parts Lot 1486 on Plan 110882, Lot 1505 on Plan 110876 and Land ID 4035609 listed as Crown Land under Section 5(1)(d) under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act) (WA) (Attachment 1 - Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

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 premises generally comprises undulating hills characteristic of the Collie district, the hills gently dip towards the valley incised by the Collie River. Based on topographic survey undertaken for the Proposal the elevation ranges between 248 m AHD at the western end adjacent to Collie-Williams Road sloping to 214 m AHD at the south eastern end of the Proposal area. There is a lower lying area within the Western Power easement at approximately 224 m AHD which corresponds to an area of regrowth of native vegetation.

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

A search of the NatureMap database (DBCA, 2007-) identified 475 flora taxa (including subspecies and varieties), potentially occurring within 10 km of Proposal area (the study area) comprising representing 59 families and 216 genera. Of the flora taxa previously recorded, 442 are native species and 33 are

introduced species. This included presence/ potential presence of 21 conservation significant flora taxa, including five Threatened taxa listed under the EPBC Act and/ or the BC Act, and 16 DBCA Priority listed species within a 10 km buffer of the survey area.

Desktop assessment of PMST (Attachment 5) results identified the following aspects listed under the EPBC Act:

- Threatened flora species or species habitat known or likely to occur within the survey area (in feature area):
 - *Caladenia leucochila* (Collie Spider Orchid) – Endangered (EN)
 - *Diuris micrantha* (Dwarf Bee-orchid) – Vulnerable (VU)
- Threatened flora species or species habitat known or may to occur within the study area (in buffer area only):
 - *Caladenia lodgeana* (Lodge's Spider-orchid) – Critically Endangered (CR)
 - *Grevillea rara* (Rare Grevillea) – EN
 - *Jacksonia velveta* (Collie Jacksonia) – EN.

A total of 189 flora taxa (including subspecies and varieties), representing 44 families and 123 genera, were recorded within the survey area during the Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey undertaken by Onshore Environmental in spring 2023. This total comprised 173 native taxa and 16 introduced flora taxa (Attachment 6, Section 3.2, page 24).

The post survey likelihood of occurrence assessment, based on soil types and habitats observed (i.e. lack of water courses and winter wet swamps) within the Proposed area, identified that of the five Threatened flora species listed only *Caladenia leucochila* (EN) was considered to possibly occur and the others considered unlikely to occur (Attachment 6, Table 7, pages 22-23).

The Detailed Flora and Vegetation field survey was completed in September and November 2023 and February 2024 and is considered to have been undertaken at a suitable time of year given that *Caladenia leucochila* (EN) flowers in September to October (WA Herbarium, 1998-).

No Threatened flora species, listed under the EPBC Act, were identified during the Detailed Flora and Vegetation field survey (Attachment 6, Section 3.3, page 25).

Fauna

A search of the NatureMap database (DBCA, 2007-) identified 280 vertebrate species potentially occurring within 10 km of Proposal area (the study area) comprising 98 birds, 25 reptiles, 35 mammals, 10 amphibians and four fish. The 10 km radius used for the desktop assessment of the fauna assemblage included habitat types, such as marine habitats, that did not occur with the Proposal area. Therefore, marine species and fish, restricted to these habitat types are considered unlikely to occur within the Proposal area. Of the fauna species previously recorded, 163 are native species and nine are naturalised (introduced species).

Searches of the Commonwealth EPBC Act PMST (Attachment 5) and NatureMap database (DBCA, 2007-) identified the potential presence of 29 conservation significant fauna including 16 Threatened species listed under the State Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act) and/ or EBPC Act, one Priority 2, one Priority 3, five Priority 4, one Other Specially protected fauna species and four Migratory terrestrial and wetland birds within 10 km of the Proposal area. This does not include those species that are exclusively marine, or marine bird species as there is no marine habitat present within the Proposal area.

Desktop assessment of PMST results (Attachment 5) identified the following:

- Threatened fauna species or species habitat known or may occur within the study area:
 - Birds
 - *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Southern Whiteface) – VU
 - *Botaurus poiciloptilus* (Australasian Bittern) – EN

- *Calidris ferruginea* (Curlew Sandpiper) – CR
- *Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo) – VU
- *Leipoa ocellata* (Malleefowl) – VU
- *Zanda baudinii* (Baudin's Black Cockatoo) – EN
- *Zanda latirostris* (Carnaby's Black Cockatoo) – EN
- Mammals
 - *Dasyurus geoffroii* (Chuditch) – VU
 - *Myrmecobius fasciatus* (Numbat) – EN
 - *Pseudocheirus occidentalis* (Western Ringtail Possum) – CR
- Fish
 - *Nannatherina balstoni* (Balston's Pygmy Perch) – VU
- Threatened fauna species or species habitat known or may to occur within the study area:
 - Birds
 - *Rostratula australis* (Australian Painted Snipe) – EN
 - Mammals
 - *Bettongia penicillata ogilbyi* (Woylie) – EN
 - *Setonix brachyurus* (Quokka) – VU
- Invertebrates
 - *Westralunio carteri* (Carter's Freshwater Mussel) – VU.

The Targeted fauna surveys undertaken by Onshore Environmental (Attachment 7 and 8) identified 19 fauna taxa within the survey area (six birds, three reptiles and ten mammals) including 16 native taxa and 3 introduced species (Attachment 8, Section 3.0, page 9).

The following species (individuals and/ or foraging evidence) were observed by Onshore Environmental (Attachment 7 and 8) during the targeted fauna surveys:

- Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*) (Endangered (EN) under the BC Act and EBPC Act)
- Baudin's Cockatoo (*Zanda baudinii*) (EN under the BC and EBPC Act)
- Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii* subsp. *naso*) (Vulnerable (VU) under the BC and EBPC Act)
- Brush-tailed Phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa* subsp. *wambenger*) (Conservation Dependent (CD) under the BC Act)
- Western Brush Wallaby (*Notamacropus irma*) (DBCA listed as Priority 4).

There were no water courses or winter wet swamps present within the Proposal area therefore aquatic fauna surveys were not required.

Species known, with suitable habitat located within the Proposal area, are discussed below:

Black Cockatoos (Carnaby's Cockatoo, Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Baudin's Cockatoo)

Breeding

- The Proposal will not result in clearing of any known or suitable nesting trees (Attachment 1 - Figure 8).
- Within the Proposal area there are 13 potential nesting trees > 500 mm DBH. No trees contained suitable hollows for Black Cockatoo breeding (Attachment 1 - Figure 8).
- The Proposal area occurs approximately 53 km south-west of the nearest recorded Black Cockatoo breeding site (DBCA-054) (GoWA, 2023) (Attachment 1 - Figure 9).

Roosting

- Roosting evidence was recorded at one location within the Proposal area in Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forest habitat (Attachment 1 - Figure 8).
- The closest DBCA mapped roosting site (DBCA-064) (GoWA, 2023) is located approximately 2.8 km to the west of the Proposal (Attachment 1 - Figure 9).

Foraging

- Approximately 35.5 ha of High quality foraging habitat (Jarrah-Sheoak Forest and Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forrest) and 3.0 ha of Low quality foraging habitat (Paddock) has been identified within the Proposal area (Attachment 1 - Figure 8).
- Foraging habitat within the indicative clearing footprint represents <0.1% of the available foraging resources within a 12 km radius of the Proposal (estimated at 40,281.5 ha) – the 12 km radius represents the distance Black Cockatoos will generally forage while breeding (Appendix C of Attachment 9).

Brush-tailed Phascogale

Brush-tailed Phascogale individuals were observed on 14 occasions within Jarrah-Sheoak Forest within during the field survey (Attachment 8, Section 3.0, page 9). Approximately 15.5 ha of suitable habitat (Jarrah-Sheoak Forest) is proposed to be cleared within the Proposal area. There is existing connectivity with large areas of native vegetation to the west of the Proposal area reserved as State Forest (Collie State Forest and Muja State Forest) and the proposed clearing will not fragment fauna habitat, therefore it is considered that the impact of the proposed clearing unlikely to be significant for Brush-tailed Phascogale.

Western Brush Wallaby

Western Brush Wallaby individuals were observed on three occasions within Jarrah-Sheoak Forest within during the field survey (Attachment 8, Section 3.0, page 9). Approximately 15.5 ha of suitable habitat (Jarrah-Sheoak Forest) is proposed to be cleared within the Proposal area. There is existing connectivity with large areas of native vegetation to the west of the Proposal area reserved as State Forest (Collie State Forest and Muja State Forest) and the proposed clearing will not fragment fauna habitat, therefore it is considered that the impact of the proposed clearing unlikely to be significant for Western Brush Wallaby.

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

Attachment 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool

Attachment 6 - Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey (Onshore Environmental, 2024b)

Attachment 7 - Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment (Onshore Environmental, 2024a)

Attachment 8 - Targeted Camera Trap Fauna Survey (Onshore Environmental, 2023)

Attachment 9 - EPBC Act Significance Assessment (GHD, 2024)

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

Bioregion

The Proposal is located in the Jarrah Forest Bioregion and the Northern Jarrah Forest Subregion (JAF01) as described by the Interim Biographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (DCCEEW, 2023a). The Northern Jarrah Forest Subregion is characterised by Jarrah-Marri forest on laterite gravels and, in the eastern part, by woodland of Wandoo – Marri on clayey soils. In areas of Mesozoic sediments, Jarrah forest occur in a mosaic with a variety of species-rich shrublands (Williams & Mitchell, 2001).

Vegetation Complexes

Broad scale (1:250,000) pre-European vegetation mapping (DPIRD-006) (GoWA 2023) of the area has been completed at an association level. This indicates the Proposal area intersects one vegetation association:

- Vegetation Association 3 (West Darling and Bridgetown) – Medium Forest; Jarrah-Marri.

Regional vegetation has been mapped based on major geomorphic units on the Jarrah Forest Bioregion and identifies three vegetation complexes (DBCA-046) within the Proposal area (GoWA 2023):

- Cardiff (CF): Open woodland of *Allocasuarina fraseriana*-*Banksia* spp.-*Xylomelum occidentale*-*Nuytsia floribunda* on sandy soils on valley slopes in the subhumid zone.
- Collie (CI): Open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata*-*Corymbia calophylla*-*Allocasuarina fraseriana* on gravelly-sandy upland soils in the subhumid zone.
- Dwellingup (D1): Open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata*-*Corymbia calophylla* on lateritic uplands in mainly humid and subhumid zones.
- Yarragil 2 (Yg2): Open forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *thalassica*-*Corymbiacalophylla* on slopes, woodland of *Eucalyptus patens*-*Eucalyptusrudis* with *Hakea prostrata* and *Melaleuca viminea* on valley floors in subhumid and semiarid zones.

Surveyed vegetation units

Vegetation units identified within native vegetation (Attachment 6, Section 3.5, pages 26-39) within the Proposal area include (Attachment 1 - Figure 4):

- FL EWcC MitHp Xp: Open Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus wandoo* and *Corymbia calophylla* over Scrub of *Melaleuca incana* subsp. cf. *tenella* and *Hakeaprostrata* over Low Scrub A (0.3 ha) – Good condition.
- FL MpNfXp PcDbVd HeLiMt: Open Scrub of *Melaleuca preissiana*, *Nuytsia floribunda* and *Xanthorrhoea preissii* over Low Heath C (2.5 ha) – Good condition.
- HC Em: Forest of *Eucalyptusmarginata* subsp. *marginata* (*Allocasuarina fraseriana*) over parkland cleared (23.1 ha) – Degraded condition.
- HC Em Hh Tj: Forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* (*Allocasuarinafraseriana*) over Low Heath D (2.7 ha) – Good to Very Good condition.
- HS Kg: Thicket of *Kunzea glabrescens* (1.6 ha) – Completely Degraded condition.
- LS EmAf AfBa DbAoCf: Open Woodland of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* and *Allocasuarina fraseriana* over Low Forest A of *Allocasuarinafraseriana* and *Banksia attenuata* over Dwarf Scrub D (1.3 ha) – Good to Very Good condition.
- LS EmAf Xp PcDb: Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* and *Allocasuarina fraseriana* over Open Low Scrub A of *Xanthorrhoeapreissii* over Low Heath D (2.5 ha) – Good condition.
- MS EmAf XoPI Hh: Forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* and *Allocasuarinafraseriana* (*Corymbia calophylla*) over Open Scrub (6.6 ha) – Very Good condition.
- MS EmAf XoPIXp HhDb: Forest of *Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* and *Allocasuarinafraseriana* over Open Scrub (to Scrub) (1.2 ha) – Good to Very Good condition.

Vegetation condition

The area within the Proposal varies from Completely Degraded to Very Good condition (Attachment 6, Section 3.6, page 40). The vegetation condition within the 111.1 ha Proposal area includes the following (Attachment 1 - Figure 5):

- Very Good – 9.0 ha (8.1%)
- Good – 7.3 ha (6.6%)
- Degraded – 25.5 ha (22.9%)
- Completely Degraded – 58.4 ha (52.6%)
- Previously cleared/ access tracks – 10.9 ha (9.8%).

Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities

Desktop assessment of the EPBC Act PMST (Attachment 5) and DBCA Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities databases did not identify any Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) listed under the EPBC Act and/ or BC Act or State DBCA Priority Ecological Communities (PECs) as present or likely to occur within the Proposal area or study area (10 km buffer from the Proposal area).

The findings of the desktop assessment were confirmed on site with no TEC/ PECs identified within the survey area during Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey (Attachment 6, Section 3.8, page 44).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

Attachment 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool

Attachment 6 - Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey (Onshore Environmental, 2024b)

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.

The Proposal area is not located in any Commonwealth heritage places (Attachment 5). The closest Register of the National Estate site is the proposed Jarrah Forest National Park which is located approximately 5 km to the north of the Proposal area (Attachment 1- Figure 6).

A search of the State Office's Register of Heritage Places confirms that the Premises contains no buildings or landmarks considered to be of European heritage significance (GoWA, 2023).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

Attachment 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool

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

The Proposal is located on the traditional lands of the Willman, Noongar people. A search of the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System (ACHIS) did not identify any 'Registered' sites of Aboriginal heritage significance under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (AH Act) within the Proposal area (Attachment 10).

There are three identified Aboriginal cultural heritage places within 3 km radius of the Proposal, however none are within the Proposal area (GoWA, 2023b) (Attachment 1- Figure 6):

- ID 16713 Collie River Waugal: located approximately 300 m to the north and east
- ID 15331 Shotts Graves: located approximately 2 km from the southeast boundary
- ID 5303 Griffin Coal Mining Lease: located approximately 1 km from the southwest boundary (Stored data/ Not a Site).

GSWA confirms that the information provided is publicly available and is not culturally sensitive.

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

Attachment 10 - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System results

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. *

Groundwater

The entirety of the Proposal area lies within the following (Attachment 1 - Figure 7):

- Collie Groundwater Area proclaimed (draft) under the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914* (RIWI Act) (RIWI Act, Groundwater Areas (DWER-034)) (GoWA, 2023)
- Collie River Irrigation District proclaimed under the RIWI Act (RIWI Act, Surface Water Areas and Irrigation Districts (DWER-037)) (GoWA, 2023)
- Wellington Dam Catchment Area (Zone A and D) managed under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (CAWS Act) as part of the Clearing Control Catchments (DWER-004) (GoWA, 2023).

The Proposal area is not located within a Public Drinking Water Source Areas (PDWSA - DWER-033) (GoWA, 2023) managed under the CAWS Act. The closest PDWSA is the Harris River Dam Catchment Area (Priority 1), proclaimed under the *Country Areas Water Supply Act 1947* (CAWS Act), and is located approximately 12 km to the north (Attachment 1 - Figure 7).

Surface water

Review of available surface water feature mapping did not identify any known watercourses, wetlands, rivers, creeks or streams that intersect the Proposal. Tributaries of the Collie River lie approximately 200 m north, 300 m east and 400 m south of the Proposal area and the main body of the river is located approximately 1.0 km to the northeast (Attachment 1 - Figure 7).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

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	No	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

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

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

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

—

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

No

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

*

No World Heritage sites occur within or adjacent to the Proposal area (Attachment 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool).

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.

*

No National Heritage places were identified within or adjacent to the Proposal area (Attachment 5). The closest site listed on the archived Register of National Estate is the Surface Management Priority Area, Asquith Road, Treesville, WA which is located approximately 13 km to the north. Therefore, it is considered that the Proposal is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact on National Heritage sites.

Refer to:

Attachment 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool

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.

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 occur within or adjacent to the Proposal area (Attachment 5). The closest Ramsar Wetland is the Peel-Yalgorup System which is located approximately 67 km to the northwest of the Proposal area. Therefore, it is considered that the Proposal is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact on Ramsar Wetlands (Attachment 1 - Figure 6).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

Attachment 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool

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
No	No	Aphelocephala leucopsis
No	No	Botaurus poiciloptilus
No	No	Caladenia leucochila
No	No	Calidris acuminata
No	No	Calidris ferruginea
Yes	Yes	Calyptorhynchus banksii naso

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species
No	No	Dasyurus geoffroii
No	No	Diuris micrantha
No	No	Leipoa ocellata
No	No	Myrmecobius fasciatus
No	No	Nannatherina balstoni
No	No	Pseudocheirus occidentalis
Yes	Yes	Zanda baudinii
Yes	Yes	Zanda latirostris

Ecological communities

—

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 Proposal may result in potential impacts to three threatened Black Cockatoo species listed under the EPBC Act:

- Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*) – Vulnerable
- Baudin's Cockatoo (*Zanda baudinii*) – Endangered
- Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*) – Endangered.

The direct impacts from the Proposal include the following:

Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*) – Vulnerable

- Of the 41.5 ha of native vegetation proposed to be cleared, approximately 38.5 ha of Black Cockatoo foraging habitat has been identified, including (Attachment 1 – Figure 8):
 - 35.5 ha High quality foraging habitat (Jarrah-Sheoak Forest and Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forrest)
 - 3.0 ha Low quality foraging habitat (Paddock)
- 13 potential Black Cockatoo nesting trees (diameter at breast height [DBH] that have potential to develop a hollow, but do not currently have suitable hollows) within the clearing footprint in the Proposal area (Attachment 1 – Figure 8)
- Roosting evidence was recorded at one location within the Proposal area in Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forest habitat (Attachment 1 – Figure 8).

Potential indirect impacts may include fauna injury/ mortality from vehicle strike during construction, habitat degradation from clearing edge effects, weeds, *Phytophthora Dieback*, rubbish and vehicle tracks, and disturbance of fauna due to noise, dust and vibration as a result of construction and operational activities. Potential indirect impacts will be mitigated via implementation of site-specific Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to be developed prior to commencement of construction.

Potential indirect impacts are not expected along the pipeline as the easement is 23 m wide and therefore any construction activities or the location of the pipe is not expected to result in indirect impacts to adjacent habitat (Attachment 1 – Figure 8).

Baudin's Cockatoo (*Zanda baudinii*) – Endangered

- Of the 41.5 ha of native vegetation proposed to be cleared, approximately 38.5 ha of Black Cockatoo foraging habitat has been identified, including (Attachment 1 – Figure 8):
 - 35.5 ha High quality foraging habitat (Jarrah-Sheoak Forest and Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forrest)
 - 3.0 ha Low quality foraging habitat (Paddock)
- 13 potential Black Cockatoo nesting trees (diameter at breast height [DBH] that have potential to develop a hollow, but do not currently have suitable hollows) within the clearing footprint in the Proposal area (Attachment 1 – Figure 8)
- Roosting evidence was recorded at one location within the Proposal area in Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forest habitat (Attachment 1 – Figure 8).

Potential indirect impacts may include fauna injury/ mortality from vehicle strike during construction, habitat degradation from clearing edge effects, weeds, *Phytophthora Dieback*, rubbish and vehicle tracks, and disturbance of fauna due to noise, dust and vibration as a result of construction and operational activities. Potential indirect impacts will be mitigated via implementation of site-specific Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to be developed prior to commencement of construction.

Potential indirect impacts are not expected along the pipeline as the easement is 23 m wide and therefore any construction activities or the location of the pipe is not expected to result in indirect impacts to adjacent habitat (Attachment 1 – Figure 8).

Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*) – Endangered.

- Of the 41.5 ha of native vegetation proposed to be cleared, approximately 38.5 ha of Black Cockatoo foraging habitat has been identified, including (Attachment 1 – Figure 8):
 - 35.5 ha High quality foraging habitat (Jarrah-Sheoak Forest and Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forrest)
 - 3.0 ha Low quality foraging habitat (Paddock)
- 13 potential Black Cockatoo nesting trees (diameter at breast height [DBH] that have potential to develop a hollow, but do not currently have suitable hollows) within the clearing footprint in the Proposal area (Attachment 1 – Figure 8)
- Roosting evidence was recorded at one location within the Proposal area in Parkland Cleared Jarrah Forest habitat (Attachment 1 – Figure 8).

Potential indirect impacts may include fauna injury/ mortality from vehicle strike during construction, habitat degradation from clearing edge effects, weeds, *Phytophthora Dieback*, rubbish and vehicle tracks, and disturbance of fauna due to noise, dust and vibration as a result of construction and operational activities. Potential indirect impacts will be mitigated via implementation of site-specific Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to be developed prior to commencement of construction.

Potential indirect impacts are not expected along the pipeline as the easement is 23 m wide and therefore any construction activities or the location of the pipe is not expected to result in indirect impacts to adjacent habitat (Attachment 1 – Figure 8).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

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

*

No

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

A significance assessment has been undertaken for the Proposal to assess potential impacts on the three species of Black Cockatoos against the *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 - Matters of National Environmental Significance* (DEWHA, 2013) and *Referral guideline for Three WA threatened Black Cockatoo species* (DAWE, 2022).

Refer to Section 2.2 (page 6-10) of Attachment 9 - EPBC Act Significance Assessment.

Based on the findings of this assessment it is considered that the Proposal is unlikely to result in significant impacts to the three species of Black Cockatoos due to avoidance of suitable nesting trees, clearing of foraging habitat within the Proposal area represents <0.1% of the available foraging resources within a 12 km radius, estimated at 40,281.5 ha of native vegetation (Appendix C within Attachment 9 - EPBC Act Significance Assessment).

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. *

Whilst the Proposal is not considered to have a significant impact on the three Black Cockatoo species, it is proposed to clear up to 35.5 ha of High quality foraging habitat, 3.0 ha of Low quality foraging habitat, 13 potential nesting trees and one location with roosting evidence (Attachment 1 - Figure 8).

Refer to:

Attachment 1 – Figures

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 proposed clearing has been restricted to areas which have been disturbed for many years primarily for agricultural purposes, access tracks and easements. Avoidance of native vegetation clearing was a key consideration in the preparation and planning of the Proposal, including the following design aspects:

- The Plant and access road has been located in previously disturbed agricultural land within Lot 2 which has been subject to disturbance (grazing and clearing) and is mapped as Degraded to Completely Degraded (Attachment 1 - Figure 5)
- The water pipeline is proposed to be constructed in an existing Western Power easement (portion of Lot 116 on Deposited Plan 412278) which is predominantly cleared. The easement is approximately 23 m wide and provides adequate space for trenching. Clearing of native vegetation (0.3 ha) will be avoided using directional drilling construction methods for the water pipeline (Attachment 1 - Figure 2).
- Indirect impacts to adjacent Black Cockatoo habitat will be mitigated during the Construction phase by implementation of strategies in a Construction Environmental Management Plan, including (but not limited to) demarcation of clearing boundaries, erosion and sediment control, Dieback management and fauna spotting.
- The Proposal has been designed so that the rail spur is located on the boundary of native vegetation (Collie State Forest) and adjacent to existing disturbed land (mining to the west) to:
 - Avoid fragmentation of native vegetation and fauna habitat
 - Avoid clearing of a Black Cockatoo potential nesting tree with suitable hollow/s to the east of the rail spur (Attachment 1 - Figure 8).
 - Reduce indirect impacts of clearing such as edge effects.

Refer to:

Attachment 1 – Figures

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

GSWA is in the process of sourcing suitable offset sites to mitigate the residual environmental impacts from the Proposal with the objective to identify high-quality Black Cockatoo foraging habitat (like for like or in better condition) located adjacent to existing State Forest or reserves to create the opportunity to expand the envelope of these areas.

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
No	No	Actitis hypoleucos
No	No	Apus pacificus
No	No	Calidris acuminata
No	No	Calidris ferruginea
No	No	Calidris melanotos
No	No	Motacilla cinerea

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

No

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

*

Five bird species listed as Migratory (terrestrial and wetland) under the EPBC Act (marine migratory species excluded) were identified in the PMST (Attachment 5). It is considered, based on the findings of the Onshore Environmental flora and fauna surveys, that no migratory species were identified within the survey area and no suitable habitat exists within the Proposal area for these species (Attachment 7 and 8).

Refer to:

Attachment 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool

Attachment 7 - Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment (Onshore Environmental, 2024a)

Attachment 8 - Targeted Camera Trap Fauna Survey (Onshore Environmental, 2023)

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 Proposal does not involve nuclear actions.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

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

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

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

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

No

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

*

The Proposal is not located in a Commonwealth Marine Area (Attachment 5 - PMST).

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 Proposal is not located within or near the Great Barrier Reef (Attachment 5 - PMST).

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 Proposal does not involve 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.

—

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.

*

No areas of Commonwealth Land are intersected by the Proposal area. However, two areas of Commonwealth Land (50962 and 50964) were identified in the PMST within the buffer area only (Attachment 5 - PMST).

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

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

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

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

—

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

No

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

*

The proposed action is located on the Australian mainland, within the South West region of Western Australia. The proposed action will not impact any Commonwealth heritage places overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

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

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

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

None

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)
- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- 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 Proposal area has been selected for the construction of the Collie Green Steel Mill within the existing Coolangatta Industrial Estate with industries such as the Bluewaters Power Station, Griffin Coal open cut mine and Collie Power Station in the surrounding area (Attachment 1 - Figure 2).

The Plant, access road and water pipeline is proposed to be located in areas which have been largely cleared in the past or subject to agricultural purposes (grazing) and the remnant vegetation (with the exclusion of the Collie State Forest) is in Degraded to Completely Degraded condition. The Proposal area is also approximately 900 m from an existing rail network enabling for connection via a rail spur extension. Thereby allowing transport of scrap steel and final product by rail so that there is not an increase in number of truck movements on road.

In addition, the Proposal is strongly supported by the WA Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI) as it aligns with many of its policies and objectives for Collie (Attachment 2).

The current timeline is driven by meeting all of the requirement (design, approvals, contractor, etc) to secure the Final Investment Decision.

Refer to:

Attachment 1 - Figures

Attachment 2 - WA Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation - letter of support for the Proposal (Restricted from public review due to third-party information - redacted copy provided)

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	19/03/2024	High	High
#2.	Document	Att 2 - Letter of support JTSI.pdf Letter of support for the Proposal from Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation	18/01/2024	High	High

#3.	Document	Att 2 - Letter of support JTSI__Redacted.pdf Redacted copy of Attachment 2 - Letter of Support JTSI	29/05/2024	No	High
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1.2.6 Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents that are relevant to the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Link	(Commonwealth of Australia 2013) Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/do..			High
#2.	Link	(DAWE 2022) Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publi..			High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 3 - Stakeholder Engagement Activities.pdf Stakeholder engagement activities undertaken by Green Steel of WA Collie Pty Ltd	19/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Link	(IAP2 2023) IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation https://iap2.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2..			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	Att 11 - GSWA Environment Policy.pdf Green Steel WA Environmental Policy	01/03/2024	No	High

2.2.5 Tenure of the action area relevant to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 4 - Authority to access.pdf Information regarding authority to access and apply for clearing approvals from land owners	19/03/2024	Yes	High
#3.	Document	Att 4 - Authority to access__Redacted.pdf Redacted copy of Attachment 4 - Authority to access	29/05/2024	No	High

3.1.1 Current condition of the project area's environment

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
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#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 6 - Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey.pdf Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey Collie Green Steel Recycling Mill (Onshore Environmental 2024b)	03/03/2024	No	High
#3.	Document	Att 7 - Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment.pdf Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment, Collie Green Steel Recycling Mill (Onshore Environmental 2024a)	06/03/2024	No	High

3.1.2 Existing or proposed uses for the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High

3.1.3 Natural features, important or unique values that applies to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Link	(DCCEEW 2023c) Register of the National Estate - archive https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritag..			High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool.pdf EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool results	15/03/2024	No	High
#3.	Document	Att 6 - Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey.pdf Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey Collie Green Steel Recycling Mill (Onshore Environmental 2024b)	02/03/2024	No	High
#4.	Document	Att 7 - Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment.pdf Black Cockatoo Habitat Tree Assessment, Collie Green Steel Recycling Mill (Onshore Environmental 2024a)	05/03/2024	No	High
#5.	Document	Att 8 - Targeted Camera Trap Fauna Survey.pdf Targeted Camera Trap Fauna Survey, Collie Green Steel Recycling Mill (Onshore Environmental 2023)	24/11/2023	No	High
#6.	Document	Att 9 - EPBC Act Significance Assessment.pdf EPBC Act significance assessment	20/03/2024	No	High
#7.	Link				

		(DBCA 2007-) NatureMap Search Request - email request to DBCA https://static.dbca.wa.gov.au/pages/naturemap.html	High
#8.	Link	(GoWA 2023) Data WA https://www.data.wa.gov.au/	High
#9.	Link	(WA Herbarium 1998-) WA Herbarium https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/science/research-tool..	High

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool.pdf EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool results	14/03/2024	No	High
#3.	Document	Att 6 - Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey.pdf Detailed Flora and Vegetation Survey Collie Green Steel Recycling Mill (Onshore Environmental 2024b)	02/03/2024	No	High
#4.	Link	(DCCEEW 2023a) Australias Bioregions (IBRA) https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/land/nrs/s..			High
#5.	Link	(GoWA 2023) Data WA https://www.data.wa.gov.au/			High
#6.	Link	(Williams and Mitchell 2001) Jarrah Forest 1 (JF1 – Northern Jarrah Forest subregion) https://library.dbca.wa.gov.au/static/FullTextFi..			High

3.3.1 Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 5 - Protected Matters Search Tool.pdf EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool results	14/03/2024	No	High
#3.	Link	(GoWA 2023) The State Register and other heritage listings https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collec..			High

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att 10 - Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System.pdf Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System search results for the Proposal area	19/03/2024	Yes	High

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Link	(GoWA 2023) Data WA https://www.data.wa.gov.au/			High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High

4.1.4.6 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why you do not consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 9 - EPBC Act Significance Assessment.pdf EPBC Act significance assessment	19/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Link	(DAWE 2022) Referral guideline for 3 WA threatened black cockatoo species https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/do..			High
#3.	Link	(DEWHA 2013) Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 - Matters of National Environmental Significance https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publi..			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 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High

4.3.8 Why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document Att 1 - Figures.pdf Figures	18/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document Att 2 - Letter of support JTSI.pdf Letter of support for the Proposal from Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation	17/01/2024	Yes	High
#3.	Document Att 2 - Letter of support JTSI__Redacted.pdf Redacted copy of Attachment 2 - Letter of Support JTSI	28/05/2024	No	High

5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

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

ABN/ACN	39008488373
Organisation name	GHD PTY LTD
Organisation address	2000 NSW
Representative's name	Vicki Davies
Representative's job title	Senior Environmental Scientist
Phone	61 8 9840 5104
Email	Vicki.Davies@ghd.com
Address	999 Hay Street Perth WA 6000

- 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, **Vicki Davies of GHD 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	668113728
Organisation name	GREEN STEEL OF WA COLLIE PTY LTD
Organisation address	'U19 L2', 100 Railway Road, SUBIACO WA 6008
Representative's name	Azlan Ho
Representative's job title	Managing Director
Phone	0402 164 560
Email	azlan.ho@greensteelwa.com.au
Address	Level 28, 140 St Georges Terrace, Perth 6000

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, **Azlan Ho of GREEN STEEL OF WA COLLIE 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, **Azlan Ho of GREEN STEEL OF WA COLLIE 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. *