CBH Nyabing Road Intersection Upgrades

Application Number: **02522** Commencement Date: **24/07/2024** Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

CBH Nyabing Road Intersection Upgrades

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Agriculture and Forestry

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Agriculture

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/01/2026

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. *

Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited (the proponent), a West Australian (WA) based agricultural co-operative, has expanded the storage capacity of their grain handling facility at CBH Nyabing (**Att. 1 Figures - Figure 1 Regional Location**). Nyabing is a Network Site in the Albany catchment (Area 15) that was identified and prioritised for expansion and enhancement in the CBH Network Plan and included in the FY2023 Budget by CBH Network Planning and Zone Operations.

CBH Nyabing was forecast to have the greatest storage deficit, as a result of production growth, of all Area 15 sites. Expansion of the grain storage capacity at the CBH Group's Nyabing grain handling facility was completed in August 2023. Three new permanent grain storage bulkheads and associated infrastructure were constructed to increase the amount of grain that can be received at the facility by 83,000 Mt.

To facilitate the efficient and safe movement of grain carrying heavy haulage vehicles into and out of the facility, condition six of the Shire of Kent's Development Approval required the upgrading of heavy vehicle intersections surrounding the grain handling facility. The Proposed Action encompasses the upgrade of these three heavy vehicle intersections at:

- Kukerin Road and Bin Road
- Katanning-Nyabing Road and Bin Road
- Nyabing-Pingrup Road and Bin Road

The location of the intersections are identified in **Att. 1 Figures - Figure 2 Development Envelope and Disturbance Footprint.**

The upgrading of the three road intersections, the subject of this proposed action, comprises a 2.52 ha development envelope and includes a 1.15 ha disturbance area.

Proposed activities required to enable the proposed action will include: earth working, levelling, compaction, installation of new roadside drainage and road construction. Most of this activity will occur within the existing road shoulders.

The 1.15 ha disturbance area will require clearing approximately **0.35 ha** of remnant native vegetation assessed as *Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt* Threatened Ecological Community (*Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC) listed as a Critically Endangered (CR) TEC under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The Disturbance Footprint also contains **25** *Calyptorhynchus latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo) Significant trees, four of which bear hollows suitable for Carnaby's Cockatoo. Carnaby's Cockatoo is listed as Endangered (EN) under the EPBC Act.

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? *

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999:

The Commonwealth EPBC Act, sets out the way in which the Commonwealth Government is involved in the environmental impact assessment of certain projects or actions that may have a significant impact on 'Matters of National Environmental Significance'. A 2023 Spring vegetation survey found that the proposed action would result in clearing of **0.35 ha** of remnant native vegetation considered to represent the *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC listed as a Critically Endangered (CR) under the Act.

A targeted black cockatoo fauna survey conducted in November 2023 found that the Disturbance Footprint includes 25 Significant trees, four of which are Hollow bearing that could potentially be used by Carnaby's Cockatoo listed as Endangered (EN) under the Act.

Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (WA):

The Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) is listed as a Priority Ecological Community (PEC) (Priority 3) under the Act.

Carnaby's Cockatoo is listed as Endangered under the Act.

Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA):

This Act provides for: an Environmental Protection Authority, for the prevention, control and abatement of pollution and environmental harm, for the conservation, preservation, protection, enhancement and management of the environment and for matters incidental to or connected with the foregoing. In accordance with Part V Division 2 of the Act, clearing of native vegetation requires a permit except where an exemption applies under Schedule 6 of the Act or is prescribed by regulation in the *Environmental Protection (Clearing Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*. Clearing of native vegetation for the proposed action will therefore require a permit to clear native vegetation under Schedule 2 of the Act [Clearing of Native Vegetation] Regulation 2004 (Clearing Regulations)] issued by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). The proponent is currently preparing a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit application to the DWER for assessment.

Planning and Development Act 2005 (WA):

This Act lays down specific controls over planning at a metropolitan and local level as well as establishing more general controls over the subdivision of land. The project area is identified on the LSP Map 2 as zoned 'General Industry' under the Shire of Kent Local Planning Strategy (LSP) No. 3 (Department of Lands, Planning and Heritage 2023). In August 2022, the proponent submitted an application for delegated Development Approval to the Shire of Kent for "development works" associated with the proposed action. A Development Approval under the Shire of Kent Town Planning Scheme No. 2 was granted by the Shire of Kent in January 2023 (**Att. 2 Shire of Kent DA**).

Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972:

This Act provides a framework for the recognition, protection, conservation and preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage while recognising the fundamental importance of Aboriginal cultural heritage to Aboriginal people. Under the Act *all* registered heritage sites are afforded legal protection. The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage's (DPLH) Aboriginal Heritage Information System (AHIS) shows one registered Heritage Place located close to the proposed site – ID 22676 – Wurgabup Hunting Grounds.

Revitalising Agricultural Region Freight Strategy (RARF):

In 2018, the Department of Transport commenced work on developing a 10–15-year plan for agricultural industries in the South-West of WA. The resulting strategy the RARF identifies and prioritises infrastructure projects that will make freight more productive, efficient and safe such as the proposed action. The proposed action is therefore in keeping with the requirements of the RARF Strategy.

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. *

INDIGENOUS CONSULTATION:

The Western Australian *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (as of 1 July 2023) protects Aboriginal heritage and requires approval be sought for activities that may cause harm.

In keeping with the Act and also the proponent's Reconciliation Action Plan (CBH Group 2023), on the 25 August 2022, the Proponent submitted an Activity Notice Issued pursuant to Clause 8.2 of the Noongar Standard Heritage Agreement (NHSA) regarding the proposed action (**Att. 3a Activity Notice Nyabing Intersection Works**). The NSHA was negotiated by the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC), the Noongar Agreement Groups and the WA Government to ensure compliance with the Act and Regulations when a planned use activity may adversely impact an Aboriginal site.

The Activity Notice was issued under the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar ILUA NSHA, agreed between Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited and the SWALSC on behalf of the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar Agreement Group on 17 February 2022.

The Activity Notice advised that the Proponent was intending to undertake the clearing of vegetation and the widening of four existing intersections as part of the Nyabing Expansion Project. The following intersections are proposed to be widened:

- Kukerin Road and Bin Road
- Katanning-Nyabing Road and Bin Road
- Nyabing-Pingrup Road and Bin Road

On 30 July 2024, the SWALSC advised the Proponent that under Clause 8.3(a), 9.2, that an archaeological and/or ethnographic survey was not required to be conducted (**Att. 3b Activity Notice Response - Nyabing Intersection Works**). Reasons to support the assessment were:

- The proponent has committed to engaging monitors to manage any potential risks to Aboriginal heritage values; and
- There is a known Aboriginal cultural heritage site within the Activity Area.

SHIRE OF KENT CONSULTATION:

Through the planning process associated with the proposed action, the proponent has consulted with the Shire of Kent in order to gain approval for the construction of additional grain storage facilities and associated infrastructure. In August 2022, the proponent submitted a Development Approval application to the Shire. The Development Approval application was not required to be advertised for public comment under Local Planning Scheme No. 3. As such no public submission were received on the application. and the application was approved by the Shire, subject to conditions, thereby enabling the proposed works to proceed.

The proponent has also consulted the Shire with respect to the proposal to clear native vegetation from with the project area under Part V Division 2 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act) (**Att. 4 Shire of Kent Letter of Consent - CBH Nyabing**). The Shire of Kent has provided Authority to Act correspondence (22 December 2023) relating to the following Land Identification No: 3753164, 3456031, 3456030, 3456034, 3456018, 3456029 and Lot 157 on Plan 190444. The Authority to Act did not oppose the removal of native vegetation from within the related road reserves in the event that a Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) was issued to the proponent by the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER).

MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA CONSULTATION:

The proponent has consulted with Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) with respect to the proposed action. In response, the MRWA has provided the proponent with an Authority to Act (15 December 2023) relating to the following Land Identification No.: 3753164, 3456030 and 3456029 Lot on Plan: P Road, Land Type: Road Reserve. The Authority to Act is conditional upon the proponent being issued environmental approvals for the proposed clearing of native vegetation **(Att. 5 MRWA Correspondence**).

PERTH TRANSPORT AUTHORITY CONSULTATION:

The proponent has consulted with the Public Transport Authority (PTA) to access and clear native vegetation on A Railway Polygon 11640429 and 12058287, Nyabing. The Authority to Act (21 February 2024) is subject to the PTA receiving confirmation from the proponent of either a referral decision that no clearing permit is required or the granting of a clearing permit from the DWER (**Att. 6 PTA Letter of Authority to access and clear native vegetation - Nyabing**)

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

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

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

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

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1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

No

Referring party details

Name	Bernadette van der Wiele
Job title	Director
Phone	0447366460
Email	bernadette@endplanenvironmental.com.au
Address	7 Bushland Close, Dunsborough WA 6281

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	29256604947
Organisation name	CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA

Person proposing to take the action details

Name	Andrew Black
Job title	Manager, Environment and Sustainability
Phone	+61 474 868 780
Email	andrew.black@cbh.com.au
Address	Level 6, 240 St George's Terrace Perth WA 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. *

Under Western Australia's *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004* (UDRs), it is an offence to cause or allow certain materials to enter the environment in connection with a commercial or business activity. The purpose of the UDRs is to cover discharges into the environment from business or commercial activities; which individually are not serious enough to cause pollution and breach the provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), but cumulatively can cause harm (Department of Water and Environmental Regulation 2018a).

In 2019, the Proponent received a modified penalty under the provisions of the *Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004* for a single event where grain dust from ship loading activities was observed as settling on Cockburn Sound.

No other legal proceedings, Commonwealth or State, have been commenced or recorded against the Proponent.

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 proponent is committed to using resources responsibly to support the long-term sustainability of the global environment. They aspire to conduct business in a way that causes no harm to the health and safety of their staff and the community while minimising impact to the environment. The proponent is committed to the following environmental objectives:

- Compliance with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and standards.
- Developing and implementing work practices and policies that promote environmental responsibility and continuous improvement.
- Creating an awareness of environmental issues through education and training.
- Consulting openly with government and the community where CBH operations may affect the environment and associated biodiversity.
- Establishing, implementing and reviewing a risk management framework that will reduce the impact on the environment in the event of natural disasters or unforeseen accidents.
- Preventing soil, water and air pollution.
- Considering the impact on the environment when designing new projects/concepts or changing existing practices.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions through energy and fuel efficiency programs and initiatives.
- Promoting and facilitating the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste.

CBH is committed to sustainability, with the vision of ‘delivering value to all our stakeholders by protecting, sustaining and enhancing the natural resources needed for the future’. CBH’s Sustainability Policy enshrines company-wide commitment to corporate responsibility and sustainability and directs further change across all CBH activities. CBH’s ‘8 Steps Towards Sustainability’ is outlined via eight key objectives which are assigned actions and tracked in the Sustainability Action Plan (**Att. 7 CBH Sustainability Overview**). These key sustainability objectives are:

- Prevent harm to the environment.
- Strive to enhance the communities in which we operate in;
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- Integrate sustainable development principles;
- Implement sustainable consumption practices;
- Foster more sustainable behaviours and consumption patterns;
- Improve water use efficiencies and protect water quality; and
- Reduce waste produced, maximise resource recovery and recycling.

The proposed action will be undertaken in accordance with both the proponent's Environmental Management System certified with ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems standard that is enforced across all CBH operations and the Sustainability Action Plan (**Att. 8 CBH Environmental Management Standard**).

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	29256604947
Organisation name	CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA

Proposed designated proponent details

Name	Andrew Black
Job title	Manager, Environment and Sustainability
Phone	+61 474 868 780
Email	andrew.black@cbh.com.au
Address	Level 6, 240 St George's Terrace Perth WA 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.

Name	Bernadette van der Wiele
Job title	Director
Phone	0447366460
Email	bernadette@endplanenvironmental.com.au
Address	7 Bushland Close, Dunsborough WA 6281

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	29256604947
Organisation name	CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA
Representative's name	Andrew Black
Representative's job title	Manager, Environment and Sustainability
Phone	+61 474 868 780
Email	andrew.black@cbh.com.au
Address	Level 6, 240 St George's Terrace Perth WA 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: 2.52 Ha **Disturbance Footprint:** 1.15 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

Lot 9231 Nyabing WA 6341

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? *

The project area comprises a series of roads and adjacent road reserves (Crown Land) managed by the Shire of Kent and Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) and a railway reserve managed by the Public Transport Authority (PTA).

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

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

The proponent's Nyabing grain storage and transfer facility is located at Lot 9231 Bin Road Nyabing in the Shire of Kent and is bounded by Kukerin Road to the west and Bin Road to south, east and north. The facility is situated approximately 320 km south-southeast of Perth, and 195 km north of Albany (**Att. 1 Figures – Figure 1 Regional Location**).

The proposed action will result in the partial clearing of Main Road Western Australia (MRWA) road reserves identified as: Land ID: 3753164 / 3456030 / 3456029, Lot on Plan: P Road, Land Type: Road Reserve, Land Identification No. 3753164, 3456031, 3456030, 3456034, 3456018, 3456029 and Lot 157 on Plan 190444 managed by the Shire of Kent and Railway Polygon 11640429 and 12058287, Nyabing which forms part of the proposed DF adjacent to the railway line managed by the Public Transport Authority (PTA).

Within the 2.52 ha project area (**Att. 1 Figures – Figure 2 Development Envelope and Disturbance Footprint**), the remnant native vegetation is in variable condition. Using the Keighery (1994) vegetation condition scale, vegetation condition in the disturbance area ranges from Good (0.08 ha), Degraded (0.63 ha) to Completely Degraded (0.44 ha) condition. The condition of the vegetation is a function of the historical use of the facility and increased salinity over the past several decades resulting from the broadacre agriculture and clearing across the surrounding landscape altering hydrological regimes.

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

The project area or development envelope comprises 2.52 ha of local road intersections and adjacent road shoulders around the grain storage and transfer facility specifically the intersection of Nyabing-Pingrup Road, Richmond Street, Kuringup Road and Bin Road (0.64 ha), Road reserve of Bin Road and intersection with Kukerin Road (1.10 ha) and Road reserve of Katanning-Nyabing Road and intersection with Bin Road (0.78 ha) (**Att. 1 Figures – Figure 2 Project Area and Disturbance Area**).

The project area is zoned 'General Industry' in the Shire of Kent Local Planning Strategy (LSP) No. 3 (Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage 2024). The proposed action to clear 1.15 ha of remnant native vegetation within the disturbance area is required to improve road safety for all road users through the upgrading of the heavy haulage intersections. Should the proposed action proceed, the current zoning will not change.

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 does not contain any restricted landforms or unique geological features. The proposed action will result in the clearing of 1.15 ha of remnant native vegetation that is in Good (0.08 ha), Degraded (0.63 ha) and Completely Degraded (0.44 ha) condition (condition scale is based on Keighery 1994) (**Att. 1 Figures – Figure 4 Vegetation Communities & Conditions**). Approximately **0.35 ha** of the vegetation has been assessed as *Eucalyptus Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt* (*Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC) (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Section 5.6 p.29**).

A targeted Black Cockatoo survey was conducted, however, given the available foraging habitat for Carnaby's Cockatoo is less than 1 ha the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (2022) Foraging quality scoring tool template is only applicable to sites that are equal to or larger than 1 ha in size it has not been applied for the survey. Using the 'Scoring system for the assessment of foraging value of vegetation for Black-Cockatoos' (Bamford Consulting Services, 2020) the project area provides 'Low' foraging value for Carnaby's Cockatoo. In addition to using this component of the scoring tool, site context and species presence, the habitat within the survey area rates as a maximum quality of 2 for Carnaby's Cockatoo. The proposed disturbance footprint does however contain 25 Significant trees of which four are hollow bearing (**Att. 1 Figures – Figure 8 Vegetation Communities & Conditions**) (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, Section 5.5.2 p.21**).

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 gradient of the project area ranges from 322 mAHD in the north-west (north-west of the Bin Road-Kukerin Road intersection) to 324 mAHD in the south-east (south-east of Bin Road-Kuringup Road intersection).

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:

Three flora and vegetation surveys undertaken over a 50.13 ha 'survey area' including the project area [Oct 2022, June 2023 and Nov 2023] (**Att. 1 Figures – Figure 3 Survey Area**) were conducted in accordance with *Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA 2016) and found:

- 66 native and 37 introduced/alien species were recorded in the survey area, representing 30 families and 58 genera. The most commonly occurring families were Asteraceae, Chenopodiaceae, Fabaceae, and Poaceae (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Sec. 5.1, p.18**).
- 34 weed species were recorded, except for one species, all other weed species are classed as 'Permitted – s11' under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*. *Asparagus asparagoides* (Bridal creeper) is rated as a higher risk and is therefore classed as a 'Weed of National Significance (WONS)' under the *EPBC Act* (DAWE 2021b) (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Sec. 5.4, p.24**).
- No EPBC Act Threatened flora species were observed during the surveys.
- One Priority flora taxa namely the P3 *Styphelia* sp. Dumbleyung was identified within the survey area. Priority species are protected under the WA *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.*
- Database searches identified a total of 53 Threatened and Priority flora in the study area (30km buffer) during a pre-survey Likelihood of Occurrence (LOO) assessment:
  15 species were assessed as "Likely" to occur, 16 assessed as "Possible" to occur (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, App. B Table 9**).
- Post-survey LOO assessment found that the majority of the significant species identified in the desktop assessment were not considered to occur in the project area due to lack of suitable habitat and/or because they were not recorded during the field survey (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, App. B Table 9**).

FAUNA:

A basic fauna and targeted Black Cockatoo survey was conducted in November 2023 in accordance with *Terrestrial Fauna Technical Guidance* (EPA 2020) described as a low intensity survey conducted at the local scale to gather broad fauna and habitat information. The targeted Black Cockatoo survey was conducted in accordance with the *Referral Guideline for 3 WA Threatened Black Cockatoo species. Carnaby's Cockatoo, Baudin's Cockatoo and the Forest Red-tailed Cockatoo* (DAWE 2022). The assessment report is provided as **Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report**, with the following survey findings relating to the 4.17 ha survey area (that included the project area):

- 3 fauna habitats were identified: *Eucalyptus loxophleba* subsp. *loxophleba* Open Woodland, *E. salmonophloia* Open Woodland and Samphire Shrubland (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, Sec. 5.2, pp.14-16**).
- 13 species were detected during the survey, including 7 birds, 2 insects and 4 mammals. Four of the species detected were invasive species: *Apis mellifera* (European honeybee), *Oryctolagus cuniculus* (European Rabbit), *Vulpes vulpes* (fox) and *Bos taurus* Domesticated cow). None of the 13 species were Threatened or Priority species (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, Sec. 5.1, p.14**).
- The desktop assessment identified 33 Threatened and Priority species in the study area (40 km buffer): 13 were Threatened taxa under the EPBC Act/WA *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable), ten were Priority listed or specially protected taxa. nine were Migratory species and one species was threatened and migratory (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, Sec. 4.1, p.12**).
- Of the 33 species, pre-survey LOO analysis assessed 1 species the endangered *Zanda latirostris* (Carnaby's Cockatoo) as 'Likely' to occur and 4 species as 'Possible' to occur: *Phascogale calura* (Red-tailed phascogale) listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act, *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Southern whiteface) listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act, *Notamacropus irma* (Western brush wallaby) and *Platycercus icterotis xanthogenys* (Western

rosella (inland)). The latter two species are listed as Priority 4 species under the WA *BC Act* (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, App. B Table 9**). Of the two MNES considered 'possible' to occur within the survey area based on habitat requirements, species distribution and site conditions, namely:

1. Southern whiteface favours a wide range of open woodlands and shrublands with understorey of grasses, shrubs or both, foraging on ground in areas of low tree density and herbaceous understorey litter cover.
2. Red-tailed phascogale inhabits wandoo (*Eucalyptus wandoo*) and sheoak (*Allocasuarina huegeliana*) woodland associations. They show a preference for long unburnt habitat with a continuous canopy, as well as tree hollows.

- A post-survey LOO analysis assessed Carnaby's Cockatoo and Southern whiteface as 'Possible' to occur, as potential habitat for these species was observed in the survey area, with varying levels of suitability. Post-survey LOO analysis assessed the Red-tailed phascogale as 'Unlikely' to occur, based on various habitat limitations. The full LOO compiled from all available data (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, App. B Table 9**) is based on observations from a broader area than the 4.15 ha survey area and is likely to include species that would not occur in the actual survey area due to a lack of suitable habitat.
- During the targeted Black Cockatoo survey, no evidence of black cockatoo breeding, foraging or roosting was observed (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, p.1**).
- Initially, 68 Significant trees were identified during the survey, of which 12 were hollow-bearing trees. Based on Carnaby's Cockatoo tree hollow size preference (between 100 mm – 650 mm in diam.) and availability of hollow (not occupied by bees), 10 hollow-bearing trees were judged to be suitable for use by Carnaby's Cockatoo (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, Table 7**). In February 2024, a re-survey of Significant trees was conducted utilising a "differential GPS" that is far more accurate, typically has an error of margin of centimetres opposed to the typical hand held GPS that is metres. Intersection redesign work conducted in 2024 has enabled the area of vegetation and numbers of Significant trees required to be cleared to be reduced. This has been achieved through reducing how wide and/or close road drains need to go near the vegetation/Significant trees. The proposed action will impact 25 Significant trees, four of which are hollow bearing (**Att. 1 Figures - Figure 7 Significant Trees and Declared Pests**).
- Results from the application of the 'Foraging Habitat Tool" (Bamford Consulting Ecologists, 2020) on the 0.84 ha of habitat present within the project area indicated that foraging habitat for Carnaby's Cockatoo fall within the category 'Low quality' (**Att.10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report, Sec. 5.5.2 p.21**).

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

VEGETATION:

The project area is located within the Mallee Interim Biogeographical Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) Bioregion and Western Mallee (MAL02) subregion (Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development 2019). Beard *et al.* (2013) vegetation classification places the project area within two Vegetation Associations:

- Hyden 967: described as a medium woodland of Wandoo (*Eucalyptus wandoo*) and Yate (*E. cornuta*), is mapped as having 20.47% remaining in the Shire of Kent, and 44.29% remaining within the Mallee IBRA bioregion (Government of Western Australia 2019). Within the Shire of Kent, this is below the 30% threshold for qualification as being extensively cleared. Therefore, the remnant native vegetation is significant within the Shire of Kent, and its clearing will result in further fragmentation of native vegetation within an already extensively cleared district.
- Hyden 1094: described as a mosaic; medium woodland, shrublands, and mallee-scrub comprising York gum (*E. loxophleba*) and salmon gum (*E. salmonophloia*), and/or sand mallet (*E. eremophila*) and black marlock (*E. redunca*), is currently mapped as having 9.0% remaining in the Mallee IBRA bioregion, and 11.82% remaining in the Shire of Kent (Government of Western Australia 2019). This is well below the 30% threshold for qualification as being extensively cleared, and therefore the vegetation is strongly recommended to be retained. Clearing of the vegetation will result in further fragmentation, and subsequent degradation, of vegetation in a highly fragmented landscape.

(**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Sec. 1.8, pp.9-10**).

A threshold target of retaining 30% of vegetation associations under Beard *et al.* (2013) is set in the 'National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005 (Commonwealth of Australia 2001).

The Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey identified three native plant communities within the project area (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Sec. 5.2 pp. 18-21, Att. 1 Figures - Figure 4 Vegetation Communities and Condition**):

- Euclox OW: *Eucalyptus loxophleba* subsp. *loxophleba* Open Woodland over *Acacia acuminata, Maireana brevifolia, Rhagodia baccata* Shrubs, over *Ehrharta calycina, Ehrharta longifolia* Grasses, over *Gazania linearis, Romulea rosea, Thelymitra graminea* Herbs comprising 0.55 ha.
- Eucsal OW: *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* Open Woodland over *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* Tree, over *Acacia acuminata* Tall Shrubs, over *Templetonia sulcata, Acacia erinacea, Acacia microbotrya* Low Shrubs, over *Gazania linearis, Ehrharta calycina, Austrostipa compressa* comprising 0.29 ha.
- SamShr: Samphire Shrubland *Tecticornia australis* Low Scrubs*, over Cotula australis* Herbs comprising 0.17 ha.

Vegetation condition was mapped using the condition rating scale (adapted from Keighery 1994) outlined in *Technical Guidance: Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA 2016). Within the project area, the vegetation condition was assessed as Completely Degraded (0.44 ha), Degraded (0.63 ha) and Good (0.08 ha). The condition was considered to be a result of introduced weed species in either a deteriorated patch of native vegetation, parkland-cleared areas, or historically cleared and currently regenerating patches (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Section 5.3 pp.21-22/Att. 1 Figures - Figure 4 Vegetation Communities and Condition**).

Located within the Mallee Bioregion and Western Mallee (MAL02) subregion, the project area lies within the boundaries of the location criteria for the *Eucalyptus Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt* Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) (*Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC). An assessment of the vegetation against *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC criteria found that 0.35 ha of the Euclox OW and Eucsal OW located within the project area met the criteria (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Sec. 5.6 pp.29-32**) (**Att. 1 Figures - Figure 5 TEC Findings**).

SOILS:

Database searches show the project area lies in the Coblinine 2 Subsystem (259Cb_2) within the within the South-western Zone of Ancient Drainage. The South-western Zone of Ancient Drainage is described as "*An ancient plain of low relief on weathered granite with sluggish drainage systems and uplands dominated by sands and gravels. Lateritic uplands dominated by grey sandy gravel plain predominately with Proteaceous species*" (DPIRD 2022)

The Coblinine System is described as "*Broad valley floors, with few lakes, in the South-western Zone of Ancient Drainage. Saline wet soils, alkaline grey shallow duplex soils and grey deep sandy duplex soils. Salmon Gum-Wandoo woodland, Mallee scrub and samphire flats*" (DPIRD 2022).

The Coblinine 2 Subsystem is described as "*Broad valley floors and alluvial plains with significant areas of saline wet soils (30-40%) as well as alkaline grey shallow sandy duplex soils and grey deep sandy duplex soils*" (DPIRD 2022).

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.

A search of the Australian Heritage Database was undertaken for the project area, which did not identify any Commonwealth Heritage Places occurring within the project area.

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

The project area is located within an area under the traditional ownership of the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar ILUA (South West Land and Sea Council n.d.). The project area is contained within a registered Aboriginal cultural heritage site.

The WA *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* is administered by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) which maintains the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System (ACHIS); a directory containing locations and information about Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) in WA (DPLH 2024b).

Two of the intersections that form part of the proposed action fall within an 'Other Heritage Place – 22676', which relates to Wurgabup Hunting Grounds. The two intersections are Bin Road/ Kukerin Road and Bin Road/Katanning-Nyabing Road.

A desktop assessment of the ACHIS conducted in July 2024 identified that the only other registered site in the surrounding area is ACH Place 5086 Pingrup 1, an artefact scatter, is located approximately 1 km southwest of the project area.

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. *

A review of publicly available information relating to the hydrology of the project area was undertaken (Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Section 1.6, p.9) with the following key findings:

- The project area does not lie within any Public Drinking Water Source areas (DWER 2022).
- The project area lies within the South-western Zone of Ancient Drainage (HZ11_SWAD) (DPIRD 2022b).
- The project area lies within the Hardy Estuary-Coblinine River Hydrographic Catchment of the Blackwood River Basin (DWER 2018).
- No Ramsar wetlands listed under the EPBC Act, or other significant wetlands are located within or near the project area (DCCEEW 2024).

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.

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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. *

This is not an applicable MNES as there are no Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

4.1.2 National Heritage

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

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

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

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

No

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

This is not an applicable MNES as there are no Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to 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.

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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. *

There are no Ramsar listed wetlands within or nearby to the project area. The nearest Ramsar listed wetlands to the project area is Lake Toolibin located approximate 68 km to the nprth-west.

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
No	No	Acacia lanuginophylla	Woolly Wattle
No	No	Adenanthos pungens subsp. pungens	Spiky Adenanthos
No	No	Aphelocephala leucopsis	Southern Whiteface
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
Yes	No	Calyptorhynchus latirostris	Carnaby's Cockatoo, Short-billed Black-Cockatoo
No	No	Dasyurus geoffroii	Chuditch, Western Quoll
No	No	Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon
No	No	Leipoa ocellata	Malleefowl
No	No	Myrmecobius fasciatus	Numbat
No	No	Parantechinus apicalis	Dibbler
No	No	Phascogale calura	Red-tailed Phascogale, Red-tailed Wambenger, Kenngoor
No	No	Roycea pycnophylloides	Saltmat
Yes	No	Zanda latirostris	Carnaby's Black Cockatoo, Short-billed Black-cockatoo

Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
Yes	No	Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt

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

Yes

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

THREATENED SPECIES:

The desktop assessment identified 33 Threatened and Priority species within the study area (40 km buffer). Of these, 13 are Threatened taxa under the BC Act and/or EPBC Act (critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable), 10 were Priority listed or specially protected taxa, nine were Migratory species and one species was threatened and migratory (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**). Of the 33 species, pre-survey LOO analysis (in terms of EPBC listed Threatened species) assessed one species as 'Likely' to occur and four species as 'Possible' to occur.

The one species assessed as 'Likely' to occur was Carnaby's Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*). No cockatoo feeding debris was detected in the survey area, the EucloxOW and EucsalOW habitat units provide limited foraging habitat for Carnaby's Cockatoo due to the lack of proteaceous species. However, 25 Significant trees, four of which contain hollows suitable for Carnaby's Cockatoo are located within the disturbance area. The removal of these trees is likely to have a direct impact on this protected matter.

Two species assessed as 'Possible' to occur during the pre-survey LOO analysis were *Phascogale calura* (Red-tailed phascogale) and *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Southern whiteface). Post- survey LOO assessed red-tailed phascogale as 'Unlikely' to occur, based on various habitat limitations. With a high detection likelihood of the Southern whiteface, its absence during the survey suggests that the proposed action is unlikely to impact this species.

The Red-tailed phascogale Inhabits wandoo (*Eucalyptus wandoo*) and sheoak (*Allocasuarina huegeliana*) woodland associations, with populations being most dense in the latter vegetation type. They show a preference for long unburnt habitat with a continuous canopy, as well as tree hollows. While the survey area indicates the presence of preferred woodland associations and hollows for this species, no evidence of occupation (scratching) around hollows were observed and low canopy connectivity undermines the suitability of habitat for species (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

The Southern whiteface favours a wide range of open woodlands and shrublands with understorey of grasses, shrubs or both, foraging on ground in areas of low tree density and herbaceous understorey litter cover. While there is the presence of suitable foraging habitat for the species, and there was a 'High' likelihood of detection if present, no direct or indirect observations of the species were made during the survey (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

Falco hypoleucos (Grey Falcon) is usually found in lightly timbered country, especially stony plains and lightly timbered acacia shrublands. The pre- and post-survey LOO assessed the species being present as unlikely due to a lack of suitable habitat (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

Myrmecobius fasciatus (Numbat) The current known distribution is a small area of WA's Jarrah Forest and Wheatbelt, notable at Dryandra Woodland and the Upper Warren area. Habitat is generally woodland dominated by Eucalyptus species, with abundant hollow logs and branches for shelter and termites for food. The post-survey LOO assessed the species being present as highly unlikely due to the project are not being within species currently known distribution and degraded site not suitable for species. (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

Dasyurus geoffroii (Chuditch) favors woodland or forest. Logs must have a diameter> 30cm and a hollow with 7– 20cm diam. and 1m length. Burrows are constructed beneath habitat features such as stumps, logs, trees or rock outcrops. The pre- and post-survey LOO assessed the species being present as unlikely due to a lack of suitable habitat (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**).

Leipoa ocellata (Malleefowl) prefers arid and semi-arid areas dominated by mallee eucalypts on sandy soils. They are known to also occur in mulga (*Acacia aneura*), broombush (*Melaleuca uncinata*), scrub pine (*Callitris verrucosa*), Eucalyptus woodlands and coastal heathlands Malleefowl require abundant leaf litter and a sandy substrate for the successful construction of nest mounds. The post-survey LOO assessed the species being present as highly unlikely due to the project area's lack of suitable habitat including leaf litter, sandy substrate or mallee eucalypts (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

Parantechinus apicalis (Dibbler) favors old-growth mallee heath in vegetation with a dense canopy >1 m high which has been unburnt for at least 10 years. The pre- and post-survey LOO assessed the species being present as highly unlikely due to a lack of suitable habitat (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

Post-survey LOO analysis assessed Carnaby's Cockatoo, Southern whiteface as 'Possible' to occur, as potential habitat for these species was observed in the survey area, with varying levels of suitability. Post-survey LOO assessed red-tailed phascogale as 'Unlikely' to occur, based on various habitat limitations. The full LOO compiled from all available data (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9**) is based on observations from a broader area than the survey area and is likely to include species that would not occur in the actual survey area due to a lack of suitable habitat. The data also includes very old records and in some cases the species in question may have become locally or regionally extinct.

Adenanthos pungens subsp*. pungens* (Spiky Adenanthos) favors white/grey/pink sand, rocky soils, gypsum in sand dunes, hillsides. The post-survey LOO assessed the species being present as unlikely due to no field observations (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, App. B Table 10**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

Acacia lanuginophylla (Woolly Wattle) is known from nine populations (15 subpopulations) in the Shire's of Lake Grace and Yilgarn. The project area is located within the Shire of Kent and is therefore outside of the known population range of the species. The species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

Roycea pycnophylloides (Saltmat) favors sandy soils, clay, and saline flats. The post-survey LOO assessed the species being present as unlikely due to no field observations (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, App. B Table 10**). This species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

THREATENED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY:

A targeted ecological community was primarily centered on determining the presence or absence of TEC within the survey area, via quadrat analysis (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Sec. 4.2; Table 11 App. B**). Two vegetation units mapped within the survey area (Euclox OW and Eucsal OW) are composed of eucalypt woodlands that have the potential to represent floristic and structural aspects of the '*Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt* TEC'.

The survey area is located within the defined Western Mallee Floristic Bioregion as outlined in Criteria 1, and therefore meets geographic boundary criteria. Both vegetation units met Criteria 2, having a eucalypt canopy cover of >10%and therefore being defined as Woodlands. Additionally, Criteria 3 and 4 were met by both *Eucalyptus loxophleba* subsp*. loxophleba* and *E. salmonophloia* being key dominant tree species, as listed in Table 2a of the conservation guidelines (DoEE, 2015), and possessing a variable understorey of grasses, herbs and shrubs. The remainder of criteria differed between vegetation units and is discussed in further detail in **Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Table 6**.

The disturbance area comprises 0.35 ha of '*Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt* TEC. The clearing of this vegetation is likely to have a direct impact on this protected matter.

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. *

THREATENED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY:

Historically, the 'Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt' (*Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC) was highly likely to have occurred in an intact condition throughout the survey area and surrounding areas. However, clearing activities and effects of threatening processes such as weed invasion has altered the condition, floristic composition, and patch sizes of the woodland remnants.

The impact to the *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC was assessed against the significant impact criteria for critically endangered communities outlined in the Department of the Environment (2013) Matters of National Environmental Significance Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 (the Guidelines). The areas considered critical to the survival of the *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC covers all patches that meet the key diagnostic characteristics and condition thresholds for the ecological community, plus the buffer zones (approximately 40 m), particularly where this comprises surrounding native vegetation.

Using key diagnostic characteristics of the *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC (Department of Environment and Energy 2015, Section 3.2 p.19-20) an assessment of the vegetation concluded that **0.35 ha** of the disturbance area is characterised as representing the *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report, Sec. 5.6, pp. 29-33**) (**Att. 1 Figures - Figure 4 Vegetation Communities and Conditions**).

The proposed action to clear 0.35 ha *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC is considered to be a Significant impact.

THREATENED SPECIES:

The potential impact of the proposed action on Carnaby's Cockatoo has been assessed against the MNES Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 (2013) as follows:

- **Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population - Unlikely to occur**
- To lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population, the proposed action would need to bring about a sustained reduction in birth rates and/or a sustained increase in mortality rates for the species. The proposed action is unlikely to result in either occurring.
- 26 Significant trees will be cleared from within the disturbance area. No evidence of recent or historical use, including scratching/chewing around hollow entrances or feeding evidence was observed (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9 p.35**).
- No evidence of Carnaby's roosting as assessed through the presence of accumulated feathers/faecal material was observed (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, Sec. 5.5.2 p.21**).
- Two hollows suitable for Carnaby's are currently being used by exotic species (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, Sec. 5.5.2 p. 21**).
- The project area contains 0.84 ha assessed as "Low" quality foraging habitat containing few proteaceous species (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey - Sec. 5.5.2 p.21 and App. D Tables 10 to 12**).
- **Reduce the area of occupancy (AOO) of the species - May occur**
- Area of occupancy for this species is generally calculated using 1 x 1 km grid squares (or larger). Clearing of 0.84 ha is unlikely to affect AOO, however, the project area is situated in a local area that has historically been cleared to support broad-acre agriculture and no long supports extensive Carnaby's Cockatoo habitat.
- **Fragment an existing population into two or more populations - Unlikely to occur**
- Carnaby' is a highly mobile species and recorded to travel within 12 km of nests for foraging sources (DAWE 2022).
- Given the highly mobile nature of the species, it is unlikely that the proposed action would fragment an existing population of Carnaby's into two or more populations.
- **Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species - May occur**
- The *Carnaby's Cockatoo Recovery Plan* (Department of Parks and Wildlife 2013) defines habitat critical to the survival of species as woodland areas supporting nest hollows and in nonbreeding season

vegetation that provides food resources as well as the sites for nearby watering and night roosting that enable the cockatoos to effectively utilise the available food resources.

- While vegetation may meet the broad definition of habitat critical to survival due to the presence of 10 hollows suitable for Carnaby's nesting. The habitat units provide limited foraging habitat for Carnaby's due to the lack of proteaceous species (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Sec. 5.5.2 p.21**).
- Clearing may affect habitat critical to the survival of the species, however, the quantum of clearing is at a small scale (0.84 ha).
- **Disrupt the breeding cycle of a population - Unlikely to occur**
- No verifiable Carnaby's breeding is known to have occurred in the project area nor were there any signs of breeding have occurred (**Att.10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Sec. 5.5.2 p.21**).
- Using the 'Scoring system for the assessment of foraging value of vegetation for Black-Cockatoos' (Bamford Consulting Services, 2020) the survey area provides 'Low' foraging value for Carnaby's. Site context and species presence, the habitat within the survey area rates as a maximum quality of 2 (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, Sec. 5.5.2 p.21 and App. D Tables 10 to 12**).
- The existing foraging habitat cannot be significantly relied upon to support any potential breeding individuals due to its "Low" foraging status.
- **Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline - Unlikely to occur**
- The proposed action to clear 0.84 ha of potential habitat will not result in a magnitude of impact that would be so substantial that the species is likely to decline.
- The habitat units provide limited foraging habitat for Carnaby's due to the lack of proteaceous species (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, Sec. 5.5.2 p.21**).
- **Result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered or vulnerable species becoming established in the critically endangered or endangered or vulnerable species - unlikely to occur**
- Hollow use in the area by conservation significant species is likely limited due to occupation of two hollows by other species, non-continuous canopy, degraded condition of vegetation and high levels of disturbance present at the site (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Black Cockatoo Survey, Sec. 5.5 p.21**).
- **Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline - Unlikely to occur**
- Carnaby's is susceptible to diseases such as beak and feather disease virus, avian polyomavirus and chlamydophilosis. As the project area is located within an area subjected to a high degree of disturbance this is unlikely to happen.
- *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (dieback) and other soil-borne, foliar and canker pathogens can affect the health of the species habitat. Standard best-practice construction management mitigation measures will be implemented during the proposed action.
- **Interfere with the recovery of the species - May occur**
- The removal of 25 Significant trees may interfere with the recovery of the species.

The proposed action to clear 0.84 ha of Carnaby's habitat is likely to constitute a Significant Impact.

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. *

THREATENED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY:

The proposed action requires the clearing of 1.15 ha of native vegetation in the disturbance footprint, **0.35 ha** of which has been assessed as being representative of the *Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australian Wheatbelt* Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) listed as Critically Endangered (CR) under the EPBC Act (**Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey, Sec.5.6 pp.29-33/ Att. 1 Figures - Figure 4 Vegetation Communities and Conditions**).

THREATENED SPECIES:

The proposed action will result in the clearing of 0.84 ha of native vegetation assessed as Carnaby's Cockatoo 'Low' quality foraging habitat from in the disturbance area. This habitat also includes 25 Significant trees, (four are hollow bearing) suitable for Carnaby's Cockatoo breeding (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna Survey and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, App. B Table 9 p.35**).

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. *

Through the process of reviewing alternative project design options, the proponent has taken into consideration the results of the 2022, 2023 and 2024 environmental surveys and the mitigation hierarchy to reduce the project's potential environmental impacts.

Avoid:

The proponent has worked with project designers and engineers to undertake an extensive options analysis and to avoid and minimise impacts to environmental values as far as reasonably practicable. Intersection redesign work conducted in 2024 has enabled the area of vegetation and numbers of significant trees required to be cleared to be reduced. This has been achieved through reducing how wide/close drains need to go near the vegetation/Significant trees resulting in the following impacts to key environmental values within the project area:

- Reduction of potential clearing of the *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC/PEC to **0.35 ha**.
- Reduction of impacts (removal) to Ssignificant trees from **38** to **25**.
- Reduction of impacts to mapped native vegetation communities to **0.08 ha** in Good condition and **1.07 ha** in Degraded to Completely Degraded condition.

Att. 1 Figures - Figure 8 Significant Tree Avoidance identifies which of the 42 significant trees are now being avoided (16) and which will be impacted (26).

Manage and Mitigate:

The proposed vegetation clearing area comprises **1.15 ha** and is inclusive of all areas that may be impacted by the proposed intersection upgrade works.

Impact Avoidance through Environmental Management:

A range of mitigation strategies are proposed to further minimise indirect impacts to native vegetation and fauna. These will be described in detail in a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), which will be prepared prior to the commencement of vegetation clearing. Management and monitoring actions to minimise potential impacts on surrounding vegetation and habitat, will include strategies related to access control, dust management, weed and disease hygiene management, fire management and fauna management.

The CEMP will include, but not be restricted to, the following:

- Vegetation protection: Prior to clearing commencing, the areas of vegetation to be retained will be clearly demarcated with either star pickets, coloured tape or bunting, or temporary fencing to protect native vegetation in these areas.
- Environmental induction: All personnel engaged in vegetation clearing and project construction will be required to participate in an environmental induction toolbox session to ensure they are made aware that native fauna/flora are protected under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and of the measures to be implemented to prevent undue environmental harm.
- Dieback (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*): The movement of soils and plant material will be strictly managed within the proposed DF to ensure Dieback is not introduced into the surrounding vegetated areas. All clearing machinery will be washed down prior to entering and leaving the site. No Dieback soil or 'fill' will be brought into the proposed DF following clearing.
- Native fauna protection: Any fauna injured during construction will be taken to a designated veterinary clinic or a DBCA nominated wildlife carer.
- Hydrocarbon storage: If hydrocarbons are to be temporarily stored within the proposed DF, they will be contained within portable bunds. Precautions will be required to be taken when refuelling and a spill-response kit will be in proximity to any refuelling location.

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

To offset the clearing **1.15 ha** remnant native vegetation within a landscape that has been extensively cleared and comprises **0.35 ha** of *Wheatbelt Woodlands* TEC and **25** Significant Black Cockatoo habitat trees (four containing potential breeding hollows).

The proposed offset site is located at Lots 55 and 56 on Plan 230522 Climie Road, Cranbrook WA. The 134 ha property was purchased by the proponent in August 2023 to be used for providing environmental offsets for both State and Commonwealth environmental approvals processes.

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
No	No	Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris melanotos	Pectoral Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ruficollis	Red-necked Stint
No	No	Calidris subminuta	Long-toed Stint
No	No	Motacilla cinerea	Grey Wagtail
No	No	Tringa glareola	Wood Sandpiper
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? *

No

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

Based on a protected matters search tool within a 40 km buffer of the project area, 10 conservation significant 'migratory' species listed under the EPBC Act could potentially occur within the project area. The pre-survey and post-survey Likelihood of Occurrence (LOO) assessment found that none of the migratory species were likely to occur within the project area due to lack of the species preferred habitat. (**Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, Sec. 4.1, p.12 and App. B Table 9**).

Except for *Apus pacificus* (Pacific swift), both the pre-survey and post-survey Likelihood of Occurrence (LOO) assessments determined that it was "Highly Unlikely" that the other nine 'migratory' species would occur within the project area based on the lack of suitable habitat in the project area as discussed in **Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey, Sec. 4.1, p.12 and App. B pp.35-38 Table 9**.

***Apus pacificus* (Pacific swift):** The Pacific swift prefers dry or open habitats, including riparian woodland and tea-tree swamps, low scrub, heathland or saltmarsh. Almost exclusively aerial, flying from less than 1 m to at least 300 m above ground over inlands plains but sometimes above foothills or in coastal areas. This species would not breed within the project area and any occurrence of Pacific swift in the project area would likely be in the above airspace and largely independent from terrestrial habitat. The species presence was assessed as "Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Motacilla cinerea* (Grey wagtail):** The Grey wagtail has a strong association with water (wetlands, water courses banks of lakes and marshes, artificial wetlands) none of which are found within the project area. As such the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action within the project area. The species presence was assessed as "Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Actitis hypoleucos* (Common sandpiper):** The Common sandpiper habitat preference includes a wide range of coastal wetlands and some inland wetlands, with varying levels of salinity, and is mostly found around muddy margins or rocky shores and rarely on mudflats. The species presence was assessed as "Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Calidris acuminata* (Sharp-tailed sandpiper):** The Sharp-tailed sandpiper prefers muddy edges of shallow fresh or brackish wetlands, with inundated or emergent sedges, grass, saltmarsh or other low vegetation. This includes lagoons, swamps, lakes and pools near the coast, and dams, waterholes, soaks, bore drains and bore swamps, saltpans and hypersaline salt lakes inland. They also occur in saltworks and sewage farms.

***Calidris ferruginea* (Curley sandpiper):** The Curly sandpiper prefers intertidal mudflats in sheltered coastal areas, such as estuaries, bays, inlets and lagoons, aroundnon-tidal swamps, lakesand lagoons near the coast, and ponds in saltworks and sewage farms. Also recorded inland, though less often, including around ephemeral and permanent lakes, dams, waterholes and bore drains, usually with bare edges of mud or sand. The species presence was assessed as "Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Calidris melanotos* (Pectoral sandpiper):** The Pectoral sandpiper prefers shallow fresh to saline wetlands. Found at coastal lagoons, estuaries, bays, swamps, lakes, inundated grasslands, saltmarshes, river pools, creeks, floodplains and artificial wetlands. Usually found in coastal or near coastal habitat but occasionally found further inland. The species presence was assessed as "Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Calidris ruficollis* (Red-necked stint):** The Red-necked stint prefers coastal areas, including sheltered inlets, bays, lagoons and estuaries with intertidal mudflats; ephemeral or permanent shallowwetlands near the coast or inland, and sometimes flooded paddocks or damp grasslands. The species presence was assessed as

"Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Calidris subminuta* (Long-toed stint):** The Long-toed stint occurs in a variety of terrestrial wetland. The species presence was assessed as "Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Tringa glareola* (Wood sandpiper):** The Wood sandpiper prefers inland shallow freshwater wetlands, often with other waders. They prefer ponds and poolswith emergent reedsand grass, surrounded by tall plantsor dead trees and fallen timber. The species presence was assessed as "Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

***Tringa nebularia* (Common greenshank):** The Common greenshank is found in a wide variety of inland wetlands and sheltered coastal habitats of varying salinity. It occurs in sheltered coastal habitats, typically with large mudflats and saltmarsh, mangroves or seagrass. Habitats include embayments, harbours, river estuaries, deltas and lagoons and are recorded less often in round tidal pools, rock-flats and rock platforms. The species presence was assessed as "Highly Unlikely" due to a lack of preferred habitat within the project area and surrounds therefore the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposed action.

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. *

This is not an applicable MNES as there are no nuclear facilities within the project area.

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. *

This is not an applicable MNES as the project area is located approximately 145 km from the coast (Southern Ocean) and therefore the proposed action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact on 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. *

This is not an applicable MNES as the project area is located approximately 145 km from the WA coast (Southern Ocean) and therefore the proposed Action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact on 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. *

This is not an applicable MNES as this project area is not located within or nearby any coal mines.

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. *

The proposed action will not impact on Commonwealth Land as it is not on Commonwealth Land or adjacent to 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 impact on Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas as the project area is based in Western Australia.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

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

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

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

- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

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

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

4.3 Alternatives

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

No

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

The proposed action is specific to the upgrading of three heavy vehicle intersections surrounding the Nyabing grain storage facility.

Grain from the Nyabing catchment is transported to the receival bin by heavy haulage vehicles. The proposed upgrades to the intersections of the three heavy vehicle accessways surrounding the grain bulkheads, will provide a direct connection between all properties via Bin Road and improve the efficiency and safety of all heavy vehicle movements to the facility as well as public users of the roads.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 1 Figures.pdf The figures pertaining to the action, referenced across the referral form.	14/03/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att. 2 Shire of Kent DA.pdf This document provides the proponent with a notice of the final determination by the Shire of Kent regarding a Development Application submitted by the proponent for the construction of 3 new permanent grain storage bulkheads and associated infrastructure at their CBH Nyabing grain storage facility.	31/01/2023	No	High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 2 Shire of Kent DA.pdf This document provides the proponent with a notice of the final determination by the Shire of Kent regarding a Development Application submitted by the proponent for the construction of 3 new permanent grain storage bulkheads and associated infrastructure at their CBH Nyabing grain storage facility.	31/01/2023	No	High
#2.	Link	Shire of Kent Local Planning Strategy (LSP) No. 3. https://Shire of Kent planning information (www...			High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 3a Activity-Notice -Nyabing Intersection Works.pdf This Activity Notice relates to the Nyabing Road Widening (the Activity) in which the proponent is intending to undertake the clearing of vegetation and the widening of four existing intersections as part of the proponent's Nyabing Expansion Project.	25/08/2022	No	High
#2.	Document	Att. 3b Activity Notice Response Nyabing Intersection Works.pdf This document advises the proponent	30/07/2024	No	High

		that their Activity Notice has been approved for implementation subject to conditions.			
#3.	Document	Att. 4 Shire of Kent Letter of Consent - CBH Nyabing.pdf This document advised the proponent that the Shire does not object to the request to lodge an application seeking approval to clear native vegetation within the Shire owned Road Reserve. This approval only covers the area under the control of the Shire of Kent..	22/12/2023	No	High
#4.	Document	Att. 5 MRWA Correspondence.pdf This document authorises the proponent to seek an NVCP from DWER for the parcels of MRWA land that are to be cleared to enable the intersection upgrade works.	15/12/2023	No	High
#5.	Document	Att. 6 PTA Letter of Authority to access and clear native vegetation - Nyabing.pdf This document authorises the proponent to access and clear native vegetation on A Railway Polygon 11640429 and 12058287, Nyabing subject to the PTA receiving confirmation of either a referral decision that no clearing permit is required or the granting of a clearing permit from the	21/02/2024	No	High
#6.	Link	Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan https://J006641 CBH REFLECT RAP 2023_FINAL_DIGIT..			High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Link	Environmental Protection (Unauthorised Discharges) Regulations 2004 Fact Sheet. https://2018__UDR-Fact-Sheet.pdf (www.wa.gov.au)			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. 7 CBH Sustainability Overview.pdf This document identifies that proponent	01/01/2024	No	High

		regards protection of the physical environment and conservation of the natural resources as an essential element to the organisation's operations and crucial to the long-term sustainability of agriculture in Australia. The Sustainability Action Plan identifies how this will be achieved.			
#2.	Document	Att. 8 CBH Environmental Management Standard.pdf This document provides the mandatory requirements to support conformance with Environmental Management as part of the CBH Integrated Management System (IMS).	11/04/2023	No	High

3.1.1 Current condition of the project area's environment

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Link	Bushland Plant Survey, A Guide to Community Survey for the Community, Wildflower Society of WA (Inc. https://library.dbca.wa.gov.au/static/FullTextFi..			High

3.1.2 Existing or proposed uses for the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 1 Figures.pdf The figures pertaining to the action, referenced across the referral form.	13/03/2025	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 The figures pertaining to the action, referenced across the referral form.	13/03/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report.pdf This document comprises the methodology and findings of a Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo survey conducted around the three intersections that are the subject of the proposed action.	28/02/2024	No	High
#3.	Document				

		Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report.pdf This document comprises the methodology and findings of a spring Reconnaissance flora and vegetation survey conducted within an approximately 40 ha survey area that included the project area.	12/12/2023	No	High
#4.	Link	Assessment of foraging values https://ecologists.bamford.id.au/ecological-cons..			High
#5.	Link	Referral Guideline for 3 WA Threatened Black Cockatoo species. Carnaby's Cockatoo, Baudin's Cockatoo https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/do..			High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 1 Figures.pdf The figures pertaining to the action, referenced across the referral form.	13/03/2025	No	High
#2.	Link	Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/st..			High
#3.	Link	Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007 https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/st..			High
#4.	Link	Referral Guideline for 3 WA Threatened Black Cockatoo species. Carnaby's Cockatoo, Baudin's Cockatoo https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/do..			High
#5.	Link	Technical Guidance - Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment, EPA, Western http://www.epa.wa.gov.au/policies-guidance/techn..			High
#6.	Link				

		Technical Guidance - Terrestrial vertebrate fauna surveys for environmental impact assessment, EPA, https://www.epa.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/Po..			High
#7.	Link	Weeds of National Significance. https://Weeds Australia			High

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 1 Figures.pdf The figures pertaining to the action, referenced across the referral form.	13/03/2025	No	High
#2.	Link	National Objectives and Targets for Biodiversity Conservation 2001-2005 (2001) Canberra. https://library.dbca.wa.gov.au/static/FullTextFi..			High
#3.	Link	Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006) dataset. https://Pre-European Vegetation (DPIRD-006) - Da..			High
#4.	Link	Soil Landscape Mapping – Systems (DPIRD-064) dataset. https://Soil Landscape Mapping - Systems (DPIRD-..			High
#5.	Link	Statewide Vegetation Statistics https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/dbca-st..			High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Link	Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System (AHIS). https://Find Aboriginal cultural heritage in WA ..			High

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 9 Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Survey Report.pdf This document comprises the methodology and findings of a spring Reconnaissance flora and vegetation survey conducted within an approximately 40 ha survey area that included the project area.	12/12/2023		High
#2.	Link	Australian Ramsar Wetlands Internationally important wetlands https://www.dcceew.gov.au/water/wetlands/austral..			High
#3.	Link	Hydrographic Catchments – Catchments (DWER-028). https://ArcGIS Web Application (slip.wa.gov.au)			High
#4.	Link	Hydrological Zones of Western Australia (DPIRD-069) dataset. https://Hydrological Zones of Western Australia ..			High
#5.	Link	Public Drinking Water Source Areas https://catalogue.data.wa.gov.au/dataset/public-..			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. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report.pdf This document comprises the methodology and findings of a Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo survey conducted around the three intersections that are the subject of the proposed action.	28/02/2024		High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att. 10 Basic Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo Survey Report.pdf This document comprises the methodology and findings of a Basic	28/02/2024		High

Fauna and Targeted Black Cockatoo survey conducted around the three intersections that are the subject of the proposed action.			
#2.	Link	Approved Conservation Advice (including listing advice) for the Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Au https://Approved Conservation Advice (including ..	High
#3.	Link	Carnaby's Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris) Recovery Plan. https://Carnaby's Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus lati..	High
#4.	Link	Matters of National Environmental Significance: Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 Environment Protec https://Matters of National Environmental Signif..	High

5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

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

Name	Bernadette van der Wiele
Job title	Director
Phone	0447366460
Email	bernadette@endplanenvironmental.com.au
Address	7 Bushland Close, Dunsborough WA 6281

☑ 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, **Bernadette van der Wiele**, 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	29256604947
Organisation name	CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LIMITED
Organisation address	6000 WA
Representative's name	Andrew Black
Representative's job title	Manager, Environment and Sustainability
Phone	+61 474 868 780
Email	andrew.black@cbh.com.au
Address	Level 6, 240 St George's Terrace 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. *

☑ I, **Andrew Black of CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LIMITED**, 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, **Andrew Black of CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LIMITED**, 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. *