

# Monaro Rock Quarry Project

Application Number: **03031**Commencement Date:  
**06/08/2025**Status: **Locked**

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## 1. About the project

### 1.1 Project details

#### 1.1.1 Project title \*

#### 1.1.2 Project industry type \*

#### 1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

#### 1.1.4 Estimated start date \*

#### 1.1.4 Estimated end date \*

## 1.2 Proposed Action details

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

Monaro Rock Pty Ltd (Monaro Rock) is progressing the planning and approval process for a proposed quarry (the 'proposed action') that is located 5 km north of the intersection of Monaro Highway and Old Cooma Road at 1995 Old Cooma Road, Royalla, NSW (Lots 6, 152, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 282, 283, 301, and 302 DP754912, Lots 1 and 2 DP555380, Lot 7002 DP1019607, Lot 5403 DP1244966, and various crown roads).

A small section of the proposed action extends into the ACT for the purposes of constructing a Quarry Access Road that connects to the Monaro Highway. Within the ACT, the proposed action is located at Block 1414, Section 0, Tuggeranong and within the Monaro Highway road reserve.

In total, the proposed action area is 570.71 ha, the proposed action direct impact area is 81.73 ha, and the proposed action indirect impact area is 43.30 ha (refer to

**Att\_A\_The\_Proposed\_Action\_Area\_and\_Proposed\_Action\_Impact\_Areas**).

### **The Proposed Action**

Monaro Rock has identified an important deposit of rhyodacitic ignimbrite in the proposed action area, a high-quality hard rock valued for concrete production. Estimates indicate a total resource of approximately 31.1 million tonnes. A term of 30 to 35 years is being sought for the operation of the proposed action. The project would provide aggregates and other concrete batching products to operations associated with Monaro Rock and for local and regional infrastructure and construction projects. The potential demand, quality of the product, and economic benefits, supports consideration of the material within the proposed action area as a strategically significant resource.

The proposed action is illustrated in **Att\_B\_The\_Proposed\_Action**. In summary, the proposed action would consist of a single open cut extraction area. Processing would commence within the extraction area using mobile equipment, with adjacent land progressively developed as a standalone processing and stockpiling area. Access arrangements for the proposed action would require the construction of a dedicated Quarry Access Road to the south-west of the extraction area, including a crossing of the Goulburn Bombala Rail Line, and would enter the public road network at a new intersection with the Monaro Highway in the ACT. The south-western 2.7 km of the Quarry Access Road will be sealed and fenced to reduce noise and dust generation, with the remainder being unsealed and unfenced. A secondary unsealed access road for light vehicle traffic will be established by upgrading the existing farm track in the south-east of the proposed action area and connecting it to Mates Drive.

### **Extraction**

Extraction would occur using standard drill and blast, load, and haul methods. Blasting would generate between 25,000 t and 100,000 t of raw material for each blast event. Blasted rock would be loaded to haul trucks by excavator or front-end loader and hauled from the extraction area to the mobile or fixed processing plant. Blasting would be limited to at most weekly blast events. Blasting may need to be repeated in the event of a misfire; however, this would be rare.

### **Processing**

Both mobile and fixed processing plants would be utilised throughout the project life.

The mobile processing plant includes three crushers, a vertical shaft impactor, two screening decks, conveyor belts, stacks, bins, hoppers, and a Pugmill.

The fixed processing plant will be used for all production at levels greater than 750,000 tpa. It includes three crushers, a vertical shaft impactor, five screen decks, conveyor belts, stacks, bins, hoppers, and a Pugmill. All new processing plant equipment would be constructed in accordance with standard practice for the quarrying industry and incorporate suitable enclosures and other mitigation for potential noise and dust impacts.

### **Ancillary Infrastructure**

Additional infrastructure would be developed for activities that are ancillary to the production of hard rock aggregates. These activities, which are described below, would occur alongside extraction and processing operations to produce additional products for use in the construction industry.

- Importation and processing of up to approximately 20,000 tpa of concrete for use as a component of blended products for sale. It would involve concrete importing, stockpiling, loading, crushing, temporary storage of process material, and potential further processing (blending, crushing, screening, and/or stabilisation). The concrete is likely to be transported to the quarry by trucks returning from concrete plants (i.e. backloading).
- A concrete batching plant, to be developed within the processing and stockpiling area. The plant would have the capacity to produce and despatch up to 50,000 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete per annum and up to 300 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete per day. It is not expected that the concrete batching plant would be constructed during site establishment but would commence later in the quarry life. It would involve receiving and storage of concrete raw materials, loading, conveyance into batching bins, blending of raw materials, despatch of concrete to customers in concrete agitators, and washout of returning concrete agitators.
- An asphalt plant, to be developed within the processing and stockpiling area. The plant would have the capacity to produce and despatch up to 50,000 t of asphalt per annum and up to 1,000 t of asphalt per day. Construction of the asphalt plant would also not occur during site establishment but occur later in the quarry life. Asphalt production principally consists of mixing aggregate materials with bitumen in a heated environment to create a heated mix that is then applied in road construction. It would involve aggregate feed bins, cold feed conveyor, a diesel burner, rotary drum drier / mixer, a wet scrubber and water eliminator, an exhaust stack, a wet scrubber / dust collector, an output conveyor, a hot asphalt storage hopper, and a control house.

#### Site Access and Transport

A dedicated Quarry Access Road will be constructed between the operational areas of the quarry and the Monaro Highway. The road will be approximately 4.0 km in length and include a crossing of the Goulburn Bombala Railway Line (not currently operating). After the crossing, the road will pass into the ACT with a short road constructed to a new dedicated intersection with the Monaro Highway. The Quarry Access Road has been designed to minimise traffic impact with a deliberate decision made to directly access the quarry via the Monaro Highway to avoid local roads.

The Quarry Access Road will be sealed for 2.7 km from the intersection with the Monaro Highway and a 3 m high Colourbond or wooden fence constructed on one side of the sealed section of road. The sealing and fencing aim to mitigate noise propagation and dust dispersion. The remainder of the road will be unsealed and graded. The condition of the entire road will be monitored and maintained to limit noise and dust generation as much as practicable.

The bulk of quarry products would be despatched from the proposed action area using truck and dog trailers of various configurations (with a capacity of between 32.5 t and 37.5 t). Smaller quantities of products would be despatched by semi-trailers (27.5 t to 30 t capacity) or rigid trucks (12.5 t to 18 t capacity). Larger capacity vehicles may be used depending on customer requirements.

Daily traffic would vary over the life of the proposed action, dependent on demand. For the purpose of assessment and for setting limits, traffic levels are considered in terms of laden loads and movements to the site / movements departing the site (that is, laden loads are a one-way measure, and movements account for both directions). A peak daily traffic level of 200 heavy vehicle laden loads / 400 movements is proposed and a limit of no more than 25 laden loads in any given hour. An additional 50 laden loads of concrete / 100 movements of concrete agitators may also be despatched on a peak day. Various types of service vehicles and light vehicles would enter and leave the site on any given day depending on the activities occurring at the time and for the transport of employees.

#### Rehabilitation

All areas apart from the Quarry Access Road and Secondary Access Road will be progressively rehabilitated during, and after completion of, extraction operations. Final rehabilitation activities would require a further three to five years to complete beyond the cessation of extraction and processing activities.

**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? \***

Below are the following instruments and policies applicable to the proposed action with a brief explanation of their relevance.

### **Commonwealth Legislation**

The impact of the proposed action on ecological values and assessment against the relevant Commonwealth environmental legislation are detailed in

**Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1\_Redacted** (Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att\_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'), **Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2**, and **Att\_D\_ACT\_Ecological\_Impact\_Assessment**.

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

Ecological surveys have identified the presence of flora species, fauna species, and ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act within the proposed action area. As such, impacts to these Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) must be considered pursuant to the EPBC Act.

#### *Planning and Land Management Act 1988 (PaLM Act)*

A small component of the impact area in the ACT is located within a 'Designated Area' per the National Capital Plan. Pursuant to the PaLM Act, any alteration to buildings or structures, demolition, landscaping, or excavation works within Designated Areas require the prior written approval of the National Capital Authority (NCA) or a 'Works Approval'. There are no exemptions for 'Works Approval' under the PaLM Act.

As the proposed action meets the definition of 'works' in accordance with Section 4 of the PaLM Act, an application for Works Approval for the proposed action must be lodged with, and approved by, the NCA prior to commencing any proposed works.

### **New South Wales Legislation**

The impact of the proposed action on ecological values and assessment against the relevant NSW environmental legislation is detailed in

**Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1** and **Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2**.

#### *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)*

The EP&A Act is the principal legislative instrument that relates to the proposed action. It provides a framework of the overall environmental planning and assessment of development proposal within NSW.

#### *State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021*

The proposed action is classified as a State Significant Development (SSD) in accordance with Schedule 1 Part 8 of the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021* and is therefore subject to assessment and determination by the NSW Minister for Planning. The application for approval must be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which RW Corkery & Co Pty Ltd (RW Corkery & Co) has prepared in accordance with the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) issued by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (application number SSD-27223807).

#### *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act)*

The BC Act applies to SSD applications and specifies that a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) be prepared. In addition, as per the SEARs, a BDAR is required to identify and document the biodiversity values of the proposed action area and assess the impacts of the proposed action upon these values. Accordingly, the BDAR is a key informing document for the EIS. Capital Ecology Pty Ltd (Capital Ecology) has been commissioned by RW Corkery & Co to complete the necessary biodiversity surveys and prepare a BDAR to identify and assess the significance of the impacts that the proposed action would have on the biodiversity values of the proposed action area. Residual biodiversity impacts from the proposed

action would require offsetting in accordance with the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) either through direct payments to the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT), purchase of credits from the market, or via the establishment of Biodiversity Stewardship Sites.

### **Australian Capital Territory Legislation**

The impact of the proposed action on ecological values and assessment against the relevant ACT environmental legislation is detailed in **Att\_D\_ACT\_Ecological\_Impact\_Assessment**.

#### *Nature Conservation Act 2014 (NC Act)*

The NC Act applies only to those sections of the proposed action area not identified as Designated Areas. The NC Act is the key legislation for the protection of native plants and animals in the ACT and for the management of the conservation reserve network. The primary purpose of the NC Act is to ensure the protection of native plants and animals, ecological communities, and conservation lands in the ACT. Surveys have identified the presence of ecological values of relevance to the NC Act within the proposed action area. As such, impacts to these values must be considered pursuant to the NC Act.

#### *Planning Act 2023 (Planning Act)*

The Planning Act applies only to those sections of the proposed action area not identified as Designated Areas. The Planning Act incorporates a number of new regulations and guidelines relevant to ecological impact and biodiversity conservation including the following.

The *Planning (General) Regulation 2023* (the General Regulation) is a subordinate legislative instrument that provides further context to the Planning Act. In the context of ecological impact and biodiversity conservation, the General Regulation provides definitions, specific Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process guidelines, and specific examples of development proposals requiring environmental impact assessment.

#### *Urban Forest Act 2023 (UF Act)*

The UF Act applies only to those sections of the proposed action area not identified as Designated Areas. No part of the proposed action area meets the definition of a 'built-up urban area' per the definition in the UF Act. Therefore, the UF Act does not apply to any tree within the proposed action area.

#### *Biosecurity Act 2023*

The *Biosecurity Act 2023* applies only to those sections of the proposed action area not identified as Designated Areas. Several species listed on the *ACT Biosecurity (Pests) Declaration 2025* under the *Biosecurity Act 2023* were recorded within the proposed action area. Control of these species is therefore recommended.

**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. \***

Since commencing engagement for the proposed action in 2021, multiple methods of communication have been used to keep the community informed about the proposed action, provide opportunities for questions to be asked, and for stakeholders to speak directly with community members about the local setting, their concerns, and to address questions about potential impacts.

Engagement has occurred throughout the design stages of the proposed action and during the preparation of environmental and social assessments for the NSW EIS. A range of forums and formats were used for engagement including the following.

- A dedicated website has been created to provide information about the proposed action which includes a dedicated 'Contact Us' page for people to register for updates on the proposed action and to ask questions.
- Initial Community Information Sessions were held in at the gate of the property (located at the end of Mates Drive) on 16 and 17 April 2021 to discuss the initial plans for the development with the community members. These sessions were attended by 80-120 people and provided a forum for robust feedback on initial plans for the development.
- At the initial information sessions, community surveys were provided to attendees to enable interested parties to provide detailed feedback on their concerns or questions..
- Newsletters were sent out to the stakeholders at various times to provide updated information about the proposed action including key components and to provide information on the approvals pathway. The newsletters also included advice on upcoming events and opportunities for engagement.. Initial newsletters were posted to each resident in the local area, however after this time were then sent via email to people who had registered their email with the person proposing the to take the action. The newsletters were also provided on the Monaro Rock company website.
- Following identification of key matters of concern for the local community, fact sheets were prepared and emailed to registered email addresses concerning the following.
  - Air quality, human health, and silica exposure risks.
  - Local biodiversity risks including field survey outcomes.
  - Groundwater-related risks and the outcomes of monitoring and assessment.
  - The need for the proposed action including the outcomes of supply-demand market analysis.
- Several briefing meetings were held with Government agencies to provide updates on the proposed action including with Council, the ACT City and Environment Directorate (formerly the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate and Transport and Canberra City Services), and the Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water).
- Presentations were given to Councillors of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council at councillor meetings in November 2022 and May 2024.
- Information on the proposed action was provided to Federal and State members of parliament in NSW and the ACT to inform them of the proposed action and provide an avenue for further consultation.
- Aboriginal stakeholders (registered Aboriginal parties or RAPs) from NSW and the ACT were consulted during the preparation of the Aboriginal heritage impact assessments and the Social Impact Assessment. Registered parties participated in field surveys and commented on the outcomes of assessment.
- A Virtual Community Meeting was held on 11 June 2024 to provide an update to the community on the proposed action. This included a detailed presentation on the outcomes of proposed action design and the proposed action layout. The meeting was attended by 60 people and opportunities were provided to address questions from attendees.
- Site Tours were conducted on 4 and 5 July 2024 to provide registered community members an opportunity to see the proposed action area and ask questions about the Quarry design and environmental impact assessment process. Site tours were offered in hourly timeslots over two days with people transported to the proposed action area from the Royalla Community Hall. Twenty-two people registered for the Site Tours including a staff member representing State member for Monaro.

- A Virtual Community Meeting was held on 4 June 2025 to present the outcomes of the environmental assessments that were conducted and address any questions that the community have regarding those results or the proposed action design in general. Twenty-four people attended the community meeting and opportunities were provided to address questions from attendees.

## 1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

### Privacy Notice:

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

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

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

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

See our Privacy Policy to learn more about accessing or correcting personal information or making a complaint.

Alternatively, email us at [privacy@dcceew.gov.au](mailto:privacy@dcceew.gov.au).

**Confirm that you have read and understand this Privacy Notice \***

### 1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? \*

Yes

## Referring party organisation details

**ABN/ACN** 50607364358

**Organisation name** CAPITAL ECOLOGY PTY LTD

**Organisation address** 2620 NSW

## Referring party details

**Name** Robert Speirs

**Job title** Director / Principal Ecologist

**Phone** 0412474415

**Email** rob@capitalecology.com.au

**Address** PO Box 854, Gungahlin ACT 2912

## 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** 11634425862

**Organisation name** MONARO ROCK PTY LTD

**Organisation address** 2620 NSW

## Person proposing to take the action details

**Name** Peter Hewson

**Job title** Group General Manager

**Phone** 0429 001 476

**Email** Peter.Hewson@monaromix.com.au

**Address** 9 Bowen Place QUEANBEYAN WEST NSW 2620

**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. \***

Monaro Rock Pty Ltd is an entity created for the purpose of developing the Project. There is no history of proceedings under Commonwealth, State, or Territory law.

**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**

An environmental policy and planning framework can not be provided.

**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** 11634425862

**Organisation name** MONARO ROCK PTY LTD

**Organisation address** 2620 NSW

## Proposed designated proponent details

**Name** Peter Hewson

**Job title** Group General Manager

**Phone** 0429 001 476

**Email** Peter.Hewson@monaromix.com.au

**Address** 9 Bowen Place QUEANBEYAN WEST NSW 2620

## 1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

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## ✔ Confirmed Referring party's identity

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

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ABN/ACN	50607364358
Organisation name	CAPITAL ECOLOGY PTY LTD
Organisation address	2620 NSW
Representative's name	Robert Speirs
Representative's job title	Director / Principal Ecologist
Phone	0412474415
Email	rob@capitalecology.com.au
Address	PO Box 854, Gungahlin ACT 2912

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## ✔ 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.

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ABN/ACN	11634425862
Organisation name	MONARO ROCK PTY LTD
Organisation address	2620 NSW
Representative's name	Peter Hewson
Representative's job title	Group General Manager
Phone	0429 001 476
Email	Peter.Hewson@monaromix.com.au
Address	9 Bowen Place QUEANBEYAN WEST NSW 2620

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## ✔ 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

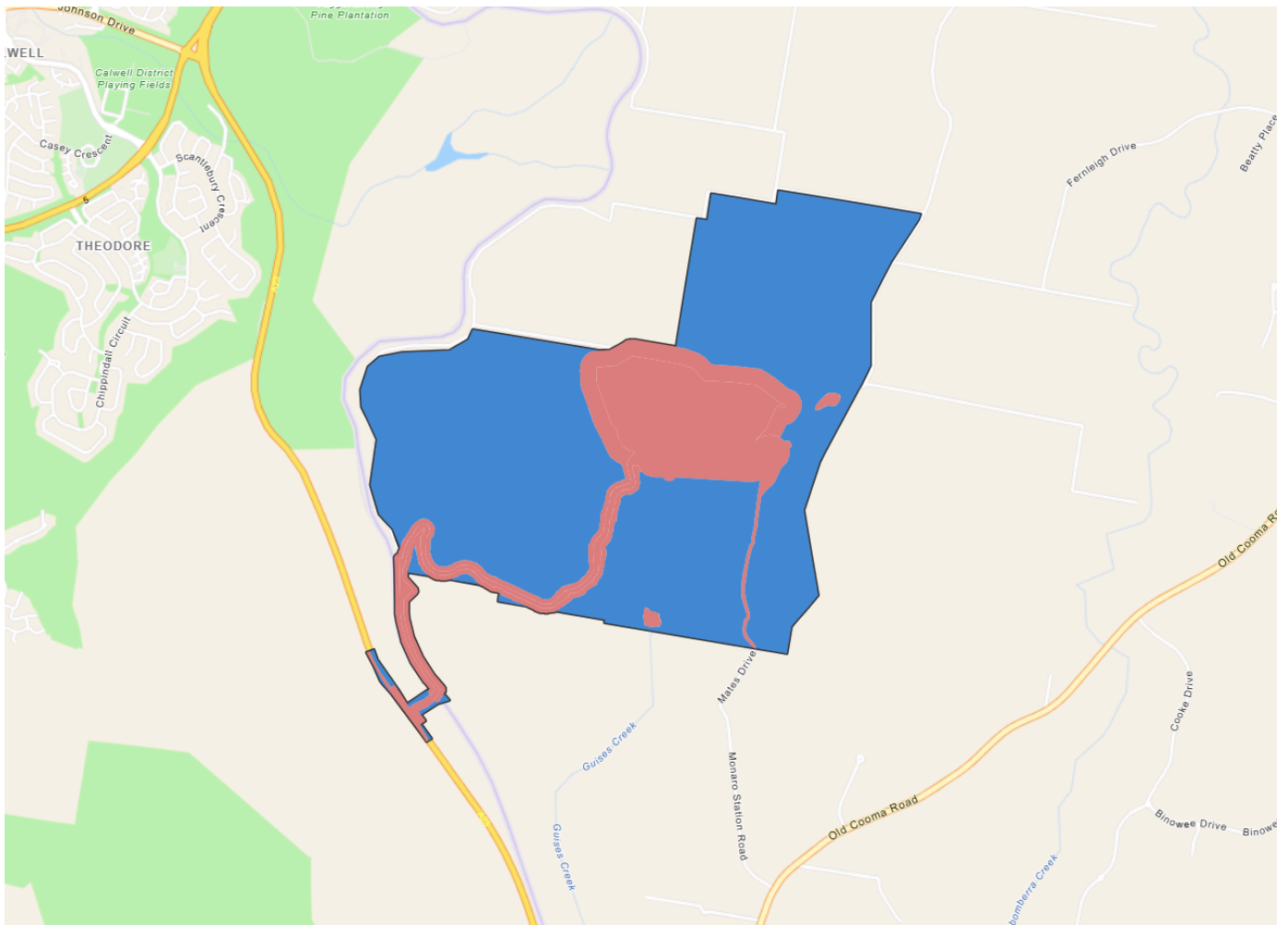
## 1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

**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:** 570.69 Ha **Disturbance Footprint:** 125.03 Ha **Avoidance Area:** 445.66 Ha

## 2.2 Footprint details

### 2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? \*

1995 Old Cooma Road, Royalla, NSW

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

New South Wales

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

Yes

### 2.2.4 Where is the secondary jurisdiction of the proposed action? \*

Australian Capital Territory

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

In NSW, the proposed action is predominantly on freehold land owned by Ellerton Developments Pty Ltd or Gongo Nominees Pty Ltd and includes a number of unnamed crown roads. The exception to this is the proposed Quarry Access Road that passes through the Goulburn Bombala Railway Line (Lot 5403 DP1244966), which is owned by the NSW Government.

In the ACT, the proposed action is on leased land (Block 1414, Section 0, Tuggeranong) and the Monaro Highway road reserve (with 'ACT TCCS Roads ACT' listed as the land custodian).

## 3. Existing environment

## 3.1 Physical description

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

The proposed action area is located adjacent to the ACT/NSW border, approximately 5 km north of the intersection of Monaro Highway and Old Cooma Road.

The proposed action area is bordered by:

- lightly to moderately cleared agricultural and conservation zoned land to the north, east, and south; and
- the Monaro Highway to the west, beyond which is ACT land consisting of rural lease land and the Rob Roy Range Nature Reserve.

### **New South Wales**

Located in the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) Local Government Area (LGA), pursuant to the *Queanbeyan Local Environment Plan 2022* (Queanbeyan LEP), the proposed action area is zoned 'RU2 – Rural Landscape', 'C2 – Environmental Conservation', and 'SP2 – Infrastructure'.

Much of the proposed action area, particularly in the western half, is mapped as 'High Environmental Land' and 'South East and Tablelands Corridors' on the South East and Tablelands Regional Plan. Of relevance to the proposed action area: 1) the criteria for mapping lands with high environmental value includes existing conservation areas, threatened ecological communities and key habitats, and important vegetation areas; and 2) regional biodiversity corridors are native vegetation links within a region, between regions, or between significant biodiversity features. They expand and link different habitats and are critical to long-term ecological connections, particularly in the context of long-term climate change.

Before European occupation, the proposed action area would have been characterised by a grassy / dry sclerophyll forest on the elevated and steeply sloping areas that merged with an open grassy woodland lower in the landscape. However, the proposed action area has been modified by its current and past land use, which has primarily been agriculture (grazing). This has led to substantial clearing of the native woody overstorey, midstorey, and shrubstorey across approximately 37% of the proposed action area. Some of the areas which have retained a woody overstorey have also undergone historic thinning. Despite the history of grazing, the groundstorey across the proposed action area is largely dominated by native grasses and supports a moderate to high diversity of native forbs.

With reference to the NSW Vegetation Information System (VIS), the NSW portion of the proposed action area supports two Plant Community Types (PCTs), being PCT3375 (Monaro-Queanbeyan Rolling Hills Grassy Forest) and PCT3376 (Southern Tableland Grassy Box Woodland). The vegetation mapped within the proposed action area was classified into multiple vegetation zones representing differing conditions of PCT3375 / PCT3376, informed by the structure and composition of all vegetation strata observable during field surveys.

Finally, there are a number of farm sheds, stock holding yards, silos, farm tracks, and farm dams in the proposed action area, and Enchanted Hill has a telecommunications tower at its summit. The proposed action area also contains internal and boundary stock fences, which are in a generally good condition.

### **Australian Capital Territory**

Within the ACT, approximately 59% of the proposed action area is a 'Designated Area' and is therefore subject to the National Capital Plan. The remaining area of the proposed action area is subject to the Territory Plan, with 37% zoned 'NUZ2 – Rural' and the remaining 4% zoned 'NUZ3 – Hills, Ridges, and Buffer Areas'. A 'Pc – Nature Reserve' overlay applies to approximately 33% of the proposed action area, with the majority of this overlay situated within the 'Designated Area' of the Monaro Highway road reserve.

A substantial portion of the upper and middle stratum vegetation of the proposed action area and surrounding locality was historically cleared to accommodate agricultural ventures and transport infrastructure prior to 1979. The groundstorey condition throughout a substantial portion of the proposed action area and adjoining blocks suggests that these areas have historically been subject to variable

management regimes including grazing of livestock and pasture improvement, however, no evidence of recent grazing of livestock or pasture improvement was noted during ecological surveys undertaken between November 2020 and September 2025.

As above, the groundstorey vegetation condition is variable across the proposed action area, with large, continuous portions either dominated by exotic perennial species or disturbance tolerant native species. A number of small, disjoint patches within the proposed action area are characterised by an understorey dominated by native perennial grasses and grasslike species and include a moderate to high diversity of native herbs and forbs. Parts of the proposed action area supporting higher condition vegetation are generally confined to areas unsuitable for pasture improvement or characterised by landscape features generally avoided by livestock (e.g. shallow soils supporting little biomass, deep washouts etc.) or verges of the Monaro Highway that have not been subject to ongoing and/or substantial soil disturbance through infrastructure works.

The proposed action area supports a patchy remnant native canopy including some regeneration. The majority of the remnant canopy vegetation mapped within the proposed action area is within the Monaro Highway road reserve.

One ACT PCT was identified within the proposed action area, being ACT16 (*Eucalyptus melliodora* – *E. blakelyi* Tableland Grassy Woodland). This PCT is equivalent to the NSW PCT3376 noted above. The vegetation mapped within the proposed action area was classified into multiple vegetation zones representing differing conditions of ACT16, informed by the structure and composition of all vegetation strata observable during field surveys.

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

**Existing Land Uses:** The existing uses of the proposed action area consist of agricultural activities, primarily grazing with some cropping. Other similar agricultural industries operate in the surrounding areas.

**Proposed Land Uses:** Proposed land uses include a quarry, ancillary infrastructure, and access roads. The remainder of the proposed action area would continue to be used for agricultural activities.

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

No outstanding or unique natural features are located within the proposed action area.

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

The topography varies significantly across the proposed action area. The highest point, Enchanted Hill, is in the south-west of the proposed action area and stands at approximately 950 m Australian Height Datum (AHD). The elevation falls sharply in most directions, reaching approximately 760 m AHD on the western boundary and approximately 800 m AHD on the eastern boundary. An undulating ridge runs from Enchanted Hill to the north-east, and relatively flat topography occurs in the south-eastern corner of the proposed action area.



## 3.2 Flora and fauna

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

A comprehensive Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) was undertaken by Capital Ecology for the NSW portion of the proposed action area and is provided as

**Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1\_Redacted** (Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att\_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List') and **Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2**.

A comprehensive Ecological Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken by Capital Ecology for the ACT portion of the proposed action area and is provided as **Att\_D\_ACT\_Ecological\_Impact\_Assessment**.

General descriptions of the flora and fauna and their habitats with the proposed action area assessed by Capital Ecology are provided below.

### Plant Community Types

The proposed action area supports the following PCTs.

- PCT3375 Monaro-Queanbeyan Rolling Hills Grassy Forest. This PCT was mapped on the hillslopes and higher elevated aspects of the proposed action area. The dominant native species across each stratum are as follows.
  - Overstorey: Broad-leaved Peppermint *Eucalyptus dives*, Bundy *E. goniocalyx*, Bundy *E. nortonii*, Scribbly Gum *E. rossii*.
  - Midstorey: Long-leaf Cassinia *Cassinia longifolia*, Native Blackthorn *Bursaria spinosa* subsp. *lasiophylla*, Wattles *Acacia* spp..
  - Groundstorey: Foxtail Speargrass *Austrostipa densiflora*, Rough Speargrass *Austrostipa scabra*, Red-Anther Wallaby Grass *Rytidosperma pallida*, Wallaby Grasses *Rhytidosperma* spp., Kangaroo Grass *Themeda triandra*, Weeping Grass *Microlaena stipoides*, Common Everlasting *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, *Lomandra* spp., *Vittadinia* spp.
- PCT3376 Southern Tableland Grassy Box Woodland / ACT16 *Eucalyptus melliodora* – *E. blakelyi* Tableland Grassy Woodland. This PCT was mapped across the flatter, more gently sloping foothills of the proposed action area. The dominant native species across each stratum are as follows.
  - Overstorey: Yellow Box *E. melliodora*, Blakley's Red Gum *E. blakelyi*, Apple Box *E. bridgesiana*.
  - Midstorey: Native Blackthorn, Hopbush *Dodonea viscosa*.
  - Groundstorey: Kangaroo Grass, Wallaby Grasses, Rough Speargrass, Snow Grass *Poa sieberiana*, River Tussock *Poa labillardierei*, Weeping Grass, Red-leg Grass *Bothriochloa macra*, Common Love Grass *Eragrostis brownii*, Common Everlasting, Variable Raspwort *Haloragis heterophylla*, Stinking Pennywort *Hydrocotyle laxiflora*, *Lomandra* spp.

### Native Flora

Within the NSW portion of the proposed action area, a total of 314 flora species were recorded during field surveys, comprising 231 native species and 83 exotic species. This included several threatened flora species, as detailed below.

Within the ACT portion of the proposed action area, a total of 115 flora species were recorded during field surveys, comprising 62 native species and 53 exotic species. No threatened flora species were recorded in the ACT portion of the proposed action area.

### Threatened Flora

Targeted surveys recorded the following EPBC Act threatened flora species (refer to **Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1\_Redacted, Section 2.3.6, page 85-98**)(Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att\_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List').

- Pale Pomaderris *Pomaderris pallida* (EPBC Act / BC Act / NC Act Vulnerable). The proposed action area is estimated to support 2.52 ha of Pale Pomaderris habitat. The proposed action would impact

0.56 ha of Pale Pomaderris habitat.

- Small Purple-pea *Swainsona recta* (EPBC Act / BC Act / NC Act Endangered). The proposed action area is estimated to support 0.42 ha of Small Purple-pea habitat. The proposed action would impact 0.13 ha of Small Purple-pea habitat.
- Hoary Sunray *Leucochrysum albicans subsp. tricolor* (EPBC Act / BC Act / NC Act Endangered). The proposed action area is estimated to support a single Hoary Sunray plant in 0.28 ha of habitat. The proposed action would not impact any Hoary Sunray habitat.

In addition to the above, the NSW listed Silky Swainson-pea *Swainsona sericea* (BC Act Vulnerable) was widely recorded in the proposed action area across an estimated 92.36 ha of habitat.

### Native Fauna and Fauna Habitat

Within the NSW portion of the proposed action area, a total of 103 native fauna species were recorded during field surveys, comprising 75 bird species, 10 reptile species, 13 mammal species, four amphibian species, and one insect species. This included several threatened fauna species, as detailed below.

Within the ACT portion of the proposed action area, a total of 15 native fauna species were recorded during field surveys, comprising 13 bird species, one mammal species, and one amphibian species. No threatened fauna species were recorded in the ACT portion of the proposed action area.

### Threatened Fauna

Targeted surveys recorded the following EPBC Act threatened fauna species (refer to **Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1\_Redacted, Section 2.3.6, page 85-98**)(Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att\_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List').

- Key's Matchstick Grasshopper *Keyacris scurra* (EPBC Act / BC Act / NC Act Endangered). The proposed action area is estimated to support 3.08 ha of Key's Matchstick Grasshopper habitat. The proposed action will impact 2.35 ha of Key's Matchstick Grasshopper habitat.
- Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum* (EPBC Act / BC Act / NC Act Endangered). The proposed action area is estimated to support 348.57 ha of Gang-gang Cockatoo foraging habitat. No signs of breeding activity were detected. The proposed action would impact 48.08 ha of Gang-gang Cockatoo foraging habitat.
- Pink-tailed Legless Lizard *Aprasia parapulchella* (EPBC Act Vulnerable). The proposed action area is estimated to support 75.99 ha of occupied Pink-tailed Legless Lizard habitat. The proposed action would not impact any occupied Pink-tailed Legless Lizard habitat.
- Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii* (EPBC Act Vulnerable, marine, and migratory). Four Latham's Snipe were observed incidentally, presumably foraging / roosting in the soak between two dams in the south of the proposed action area. The proposed action would not impact any Latham's Snipe foraging / roosting habitat.

In addition to the above, the following BC Act / NC Act listed species were recorded in the proposed action area: Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus* (BC Act Vulnerable), Speckled Warbler *Chthonicola sagittate* (BC Act Vulnerable), Varied Sittella *Daphoenositta chrysoptera* (BC Act / NC Act Vulnerable), Scarlet Robin *Petroica boodang* (BC Act / NC Act Vulnerable), and Flame Robin *Petroica phoenicea* (BC Act Vulnerable).

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

As described in Section 3.2.1 of this referral, comprehensive ecological assessments were undertaken by Capital Ecology. They are provided as

**Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1\_Redacted** (Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att\_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'), **Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2** and **Att\_D\_ACT\_Ecological\_Impact\_Assessment**. General descriptions of the vegetation observed with the proposed action area assessed by Capital Ecology are provided below.

### General Vegetation Condition

Before European occupation, the proposed action area would have been characterised by a grassy / dry sclerophyll forest (i.e. PCT3375) on the elevated and steeply sloping areas that merged with an open grassy woodland (i.e. PCT3376 / ACT16) lower in the landscape. However, the proposed action area has been modified by its current and past land use, which has primarily been agriculture (grazing). This has led to substantial clearing of the native woody overstorey, midstorey, and shrubstorey across a substantial portion of the proposed action area. Some of the areas which have retained a woody overstorey have also undergone historic thinning.

Despite the history of grazing, the groundstorey across the NSW portion of the proposed action area is largely dominated by native grasses and supports a moderate to high diversity of native forbs. Within the ACT, the groundstorey vegetation condition is more variable, with large, continuous portions either dominated by exotic perennial species or disturbance tolerant native species.

The vegetation for each PCT in the proposed action area was classified into one of the following six vegetation zones.

- Zone 1 – Canopy – Native Dominant – Mod-High Diversity.
- Zone 2 – No Canopy – Native Dominant – Mod-High Diversity.
- Zone 3 – Canopy – Native Dominant – Low Diversity.
- Zone 4 – No Canopy – Native Dominant – Low Diversity.
- Zone 5 – Canopy – Exotic Dominant – Low Diversity.
- Zone 6 – No Canopy – Exotic Dominant – Low Diversity.

### Threatened Ecological Communities

PCT3376 / ACT16 are identified as the potential EPBC Act listed threatened ecological community (TEC) *White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland* (EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland). As detailed in

**Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1\_Redacted, Section 2.2.5, page 60-63** (Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att\_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List') and **Att\_D\_ACT\_Ecological\_Impact\_Assessment, Section 2.3.1, page 18-21**, the areas mapped as PCT3376 / ACT 16 Zone 1 and Zone 2 meet the definition of EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland. The proposed action area therefore supports 218.91 ha of EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland, consisting of 140.56 ha in Condition Class A (i.e. Zone 1) and 78.35 ha in Condition Class B (i.e. Zone 2). Of that, the proposed action would directly impact 22.78 ha and would indirectly impact a further 5.39 ha.

### Native Vegetation

Per the BC Act definition, the proposed action area in NSW supports 550.07 ha of native vegetation. Of that, the proposed action would directly impact 77.03 ha.

Per the NC Act definition, the proposed action area in the ACT supports 2.12 ha of native vegetation. Of that, the proposed action would directly impact 1.12 ha.

In total, the proposed action area therefore supports 552.19 ha of native vegetation, as defined under the BC Act or NC Act. Of that, the proposed action would directly impact 78.15.

## Soils/geology

As detailed in **Att\_I\_Soil\_and\_Land\_Capability\_Assessment**, the proposed action area is located within land mapped as the Campbell and Burra Soil Landscapes. The soils within the proposed action area support limit land capability as they:

- have a variable infiltration rate ranging from very slow to very rapid;
- have a high wind erodibility rating;
- are moderately to highly dispersible;
- are non-saline;
- are moderately to strongly acidic;
- are non-sodic (excepting a single sample); and
- are very weak to weakly leached (indicating their limited capacity to hold any additional nutrients applied).

## 3.3 Heritage

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

There are no Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

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

As detailed in **Att\_J\_Aboriginal\_Cultural\_Heritage\_and\_Archaeological\_Report** (Att\_J will not be made publicly available due to cultural sensitivity reasons), comprehensive field survey undertaken in consultation with stakeholders from the Aboriginal community has identified 32 sites within the proposed action area that have Aboriginal cultural heritage value. The cultural significance of these sites is high for the Aboriginal community; however, most are considered common and of low scientific value.

## 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. \*

As detailed in **Att\_K\_Surface\_Water\_Management\_Report**, drainage from the proposed action area generally flows east into Four Mile Creek, which drains into Jerrabomberra Creek, which in turn drains into Lake Burley Griffin via the Molonglo River. The proposed action area also contains an unnamed ephemeral watercourse which runs north from the Extraction Area into Monks Gully, which in turn drains into Dunns Creek. Dunns Creek continues westward and drains into Tuggeranong Creek and ultimately into the Murrumbidgee River.

## 4. Impacts and mitigation

## 4.1 Impact details

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

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

### 4.1.1 World Heritage

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

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

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

—

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

No

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

\*

There are no listed World Heritage properties within the proposed action area. No direct or indirect impacts to World Heritage properties are expected as a result of the proposed action.

### 4.1.2 National Heritage

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

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

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

—

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

No

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

\*

There are no listed National Heritage properties within the proposed action area. No direct or indirect impacts to National Heritage properties are expected as a result of the proposed action.

### 4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

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

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

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

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ramsar wetland
Yes		Banrock Station Wetland Complex
Yes		Hattah-Kulkyne Lakes
Yes		Riverland
Yes		The Coorong, and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Wetland

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

No

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

\*

The proposed action is not situated in or near a Ramsar Wetland. The nearest Ramsar Wetland, Hattah-kulkyne lakes, is approximately 600 – 700 km from the proposed action area.

#### 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	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater
No	No	<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>	Southern Whiteface
No	No	<i>Aprasia parapulchella</i>	Pink-tailed Worm-lizard, Pink-tailed Legless Lizard
No	No	<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern
No	No	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
Yes	No	<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo
No	No	<i>Calotis glandulosa</i>	Mauve Burr-daisy
No	No	<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i>	South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo
No	No	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat
No	No	<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>	Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern)
No	No	<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i> (SE mainland population)	Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population)
No	No	<i>Delma impar</i>	Striped Legless Lizard, Striped Snake-lizard
No	No	<i>Dodonaea procumbens</i>	Trailing Hop-bush
No	No	<i>Euastacus armatus</i>	Murray Crayfish
No	No	<i>Eucalyptus aggregata</i>	Black Gum
No	No	<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon
No	No	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater
No	No	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail

<b>Direct impact</b>	<b>Indirect impact</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Common name</b>
Yes	No	<i>Keyacris scurra</i>	Key's Matchstick Grasshopper
No	No	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot
No	No	<i>Lepidium aschersonii</i>	Spiny Peppercross
No	No	<i>Lepidium hyssopifolium</i>	Basalt Pepper-cross, Peppercross, Rubble Pepper-cross, Pepperweed
No	No	<i>Leucochrysum albicans</i> subsp. <i>tricolor</i>	Hoary Sunray, Grassland Paper-daisy
No	No	<i>Litoria castanea</i>	Yellow-spotted Tree Frog, Yellow-spotted Bell Frog
No	No	<i>Macquaria australasica</i>	Macquarie Perch
No	No	<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>	South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern)
No	No	<i>Neophema chrysostoma</i>	Blue-winged Parrot
No	No	<i>Petaurus australis australis</i>	Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)
No	No	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)	Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory)
No	No	<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Superb Parrot
Yes	No	<i>Pomaderris pallida</i>	Pale Pomaderris
No	No	<i>Prasophyllum petilum</i>	Tarengo Leek Orchid
No	No	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox
No	No	<i>Pycnoptilus floccosus</i>	Pilotbird
No	No	<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe
No	No	<i>Rutidosis leptorhynchoides</i>	Button Wrinklewort
No	No	<i>Senecio macrocarpus</i>	Large-fruit Fireweed, Large-fruit Groundsel
No	No	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail
Yes	No	<i>Swainsona recta</i>	Small Purple-pea, Mountain Swainson-pea, Small Purple Pea
No	No	<i>Synemon plana</i>	Golden Sun Moth

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Thesium australe	Austral Toadflax, Toadflax
No	No	Tympanocryptis lineata	Canberra Grassland Earless Dragon, Lined Earless Dragon

### Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
No	No	Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens
No	No	Natural Temperate Grassland of the South Eastern Highlands
Yes	Yes	White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

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

Yes

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

The assessment of direct and/or indirect impacts on protected matters are based on the results of targeted surveys. As discussed in **Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2, Section 3.5.1, page 113** and **Att\_D\_ACT\_Ecological\_Impact\_Assessment, Section 5.1, page 31-32**, a number of EPBC Act listed flora species, fauna species, and one ecological community that are known to occur in the proposed action area would be impacted by the proposed action. These EPBC Act protected matters are discussed in more detail below.

#### **Threatened ecological communities**

The proposed action would directly impact 22.78 ha of EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland (EPBC Act Critically Endangered), consisting of 22.44 ha in NSW and 0.34 ha in the ACT. In addition, via the impact of noise, edge effects, and dust on retained / adjacent areas, the proposed action is considered likely to have an indirect impact on an additional 5.39 ha of EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland.

#### **Threatened flora**

The proposed action would directly impact the following EPBC Act listed flora species.

- 0.56 ha of habitat for Pale Pomaderris *Pomaderris pallida* (EPBC Act Vulnerable).
- 0.13 ha of habitat for Small Purple-pea *Swainsona recta* (EPBC Act Endangered).

#### **Threatened fauna**

The proposed action would directly impact the following EPBC Act listed fauna species.

- 2.35 ha of habitat for Key's Matchstick Grasshopper *Keyacris scurra* (EPBC Act Endangered).
- 48.08 ha of foraging habitat for Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum* (EPBC Act Endangered).

#### **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. \***

EPBC Act Significant Impact Assessments (SIC) are included in **Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2, Appendix H, page 173-197**. The below notes summarise the outcome of those SIC assessments.

**EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland (EPBC Act Critically Endangered)**

The proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland through a reduction in the extent of the ecological community by 22.78 ha (22.44 ha in NSW and 0.34 ha in the ACT) and indirect impact to an additional 5.39 ha, all of which meets the definition of 'habitat critical to the survival of the ecological community'.

**Gang-gang Cockatoo (EPBC Act Endangered)**

The proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on Gang-gang Cockatoo through a reduction in the Area of Occurrence (AOO) by 48.08 ha of foraging habitat, all of which meets the definition of 'habitat critical to the survival of the species'.

**Key's Matchstick Grasshopper (EPBC Act Endangered)**

The proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on Key's Matchstick Grasshopper through a reduction in the AOO by 2.35 ha of habitat, all of which likely meets the definition of 'habitat critical to the survival of the species'. In addition, the proposed action is considered likely to fragment an existing population into two or more populations and may disrupt the breeding cycle of a population.

**Small Purple-pea (EPBC Act Endangered)**

The proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on Small Purple-pea through a reduction in the AOO by 0.13 ha of habitat, all of which meets the definition of 'habitat critical to the survival of the species'.

**Pale Pomaderris (EPBC Act Vulnerable)**

The proposed action is unlikely to have a significant impact on Pale Pomaderris given the small-scale nature of the impact on the species combined with the conclusion that the population in the proposed action area is not an 'important population' as per the definition in the significant impact guidelines.

**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. \***

A proposed action will be a controlled action requiring approval of the Minister under Part 9 of the EPBC Act if it has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on any MNES. As the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on MNES (refer to Section 4.1.4.5 of this referral), it is considered likely to be a controlled action.

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

The proponent of the proposed action has examined a range of alternatives for a number of the project components before deciding upon the location, scale, and form of the proposed action as presented in this referral. The following sections, as presented in

**Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2, Section 3.1, page 99-104**, outline the feasible alternatives considered for these components and the reasons for not proceeding with the various alternative(s) and proceeding with the preferred alternative for each component.

### **Extraction area boundaries**

The location of the proposed action was constrained by the location of the suitable hard rock resource. Early investigations dictated the potential location to an even greater extent, as it was identified that the resource on the eastern side of the Royalla Fault would not produce an aggregate with properties needed by the construction industry. These eastern areas were therefore removed from consideration.

Three potential extraction areas were subsequently identified (refer to **Att\_E\_Extraction\_and\_Processing\_Area\_Options**). Investigation of these areas concluded the following.

- Extraction Area Option A was rejected due to the potential for views of the operation from within the ACT, occurrence of occupied Pink-tailed Legless Lizard habitat, occurrence of the highest density Silky Swainson-pea populations, and difficulty with access to the northern section of the property.
- Extraction Area Option B was considered the best opportunity as it represented extraction within a defined ridge and processing activities that would be separated from neighbours. It was also characterised by a low occurrence of threatened flora and fauna habitat. However, this area contained good condition Box-Gum Woodland along its eastern extent
- Extraction Area Option C had the best prospects for access to the public road network. However, it would have required development within a narrow gully, was known to contain good condition Box-Gum Woodland, and was in close proximity to neighbours and the existing communications tower.

Accordingly, Extraction Area Option B was further investigated. The opportunity for existing topographic features such as Beatty Hill and Enchanted Hill to provide natural mitigation for possible noise or visual amenity impacts was also considered at this time.

The extent of Extraction Area Option B was further refined through a variety of surveys, including geotechnical and biodiversity investigations. **Att\_F\_Extraction\_Area\_Refinement\_Options** presents the progressive refinement of the Extraction Area Option B that incorporated the following considerations.

- The outcomes of biodiversity field survey were used to define the western boundary of the extraction area and avoid the clearing of good condition vegetation, where feasible. This process was informed by analysis of vegetation density. These avoided areas also included additional Pale Pomaderris habitat and higher quality Gang-gang Cockatoo foraging habitat (i.e. dense vegetation connected to the portions of the proposed action area where the species was recorded).
- Biodiversity field surveys were also used to avoid Box-Gum Woodland vegetation in determining the location of the Processing and Stockpiling Area and the Visibility Barrier.
- The final Extraction Area boundary (Option B3) was determined after removal of a small area in the northwestern corner to avoid a culturally modified ring tree. Consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders indicated that the tree was considered significant, and the disturbance footprint was modified to avoid this location. This modification removed approximately 2 Mt of resource from the final project design. An additional culturally modified scar tree was avoided through an adjustment to the western end of the Visibility Barrier.

### **Project access**

A range of options were considered to provide access to the proposed action (refer to **Att\_G\_Project\_Site\_Access\_Options**). The majority of these options were dismissed on the basis of:

- the length of road required to be constructed;

- biodiversity impacts, including to high quality Box-Gum Woodland;
- complexity of the path, including the terrain and the need to cross drainage features; and
- the need to use private or public land for which access was not or could not be granted.

During community consultation, members of the community expressed a clear preference for transportation activities to avoid the use of Mates Drive and Monaro Station Road. While some use of these roads would occur during construction and for light vehicles during operations, heavy vehicle access for product transportation is not a preference of the applicant.

Two access options were considered in detail and a conceptual design developed to consider which alternative was preferred (refer to **Att\_H\_Quarry\_Access\_Road\_Design\_Options**). The detailed analysis undertaken of these options included consideration of the following

- Biodiversity constraints. Both options would impact high quality Box-Gum Woodland, with Option 2 impacting a larger area. Option 1 would impact threatened flora in the rail corridor, while Option 2 would impact occupied Pink-tailed Legless Lizard habitat.
- Aboriginal heritage constraints. Both options would impact some culturally significant artefacts that would need to be removed.
- Amenity impacts. In comparison to Option 1, Option 2 may have resulted in higher noise and air quality impacts to nearby residents, and views of the road would be likely from private residences and vehicles travelling on Old Cooma Road.
- Proximity to residences. Option 1 would occur away from the majority of residences, while Option 2 would pass closer to private properties and therefore require a higher level of mitigation for views, noise generation, and dust dispersion.
- Community feedback. Option 1 was the clear preference for transportation activities.

In addition to the above, the detailed analysis also considered road safety, planning approval risks, road authority, configuration of public roads, construction complexity, cost, landowner agreements, and terrain.

While the above process supported both options in different ways, Option 1 was selected primarily due to the separation of transport activities from community and the likely long-term benefit of this option for the applicant and the community. This is despite the higher cost to construct and complexity in development of Option 1.

#### **Ecological monitoring, management, and rehabilitation of native vegetation and habitat**

As per **Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2, Section 3.3.1, page 117-119**, a Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Management Plan would be developed as part of the project. This plan would be the key document that would guide the management of landscape-related risks for the ongoing operation of the proposed action and set out proposed final rehabilitation strategies and completion criteria. The Biodiversity and Rehabilitation Management Plan would include the following information.

- Clearing protocols.
- Progressive rehabilitation strategy.
- Tree screening areas and the visibility barrier.
- Weed management.
- Feral animal management.
- Ecological monitoring.
- Reactive / adaptive management.
- Reporting and review.

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

## New South Wales

The proposed action has been assessed in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Assessment Method (2020) under the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS). As per

**Att\_C.2\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_2, Section 3.5.2, page 133-137**, the proposed action will generate the following BOS offset liability.

- Ecosystem credits
  - **PCT3375 Monaro-Queanbeyan Rolling Hills Grassy Forest**: 1401 credits.
  - **PCT3376 Southern Tableland Grassy Box Woodland**: 465 credits.
- Species credits
  - **Key's Matchstick Grasshopper *Keyacris scurra***: 93 credits.
  - **Pale Pomaderris *Pomaderris pallida***: 34 credits.
  - **Small Purple-pea *Swainsona recta***: 4 credits.

The proposed action would also generate an offset liability of 1127 credits for Pink-tailed Legless Lizard *Aprasia parapulchella* and 76 credits for Silky Swainson-pea *Swainsona sericea*. With regard to Pink-tailed Legless Lizard, the offset liability is determined by the extent of characteristically suitable habitat, which encompasses all portions of the proposed action area that support appropriate habitat features for the species. In contrast, the extent of habitat as determined by the Commonwealth Survey Guidelines for the species is defined by the extent of occupied habitat. As the proposed action will not impact any occupied Pink-tailed Legless Lizard habitat, the proposed action is not considered to impact the species pursuant to the EPBC Act.

To meet the offset obligation, Monaro Rock is investigating the following three options. All offset obligations would be met via the 'like-for-like' offset rules.

1. Retiring biodiversity credits generated at a Biodiversity Stewardship Site to be established in the proposed action area. The land in the west of the proposed action area, between the proposed action direct impact area and the Goulburn Bombala Railway Line, is being considered for a Biodiversity Stewardship Site. Initial investigations indicate that a such a Biodiversity Stewardship Site would generate enough credits to meet approximately 50% of the total offset obligation.
2. Retiring biodiversity credits that have been purchased on the market. A number of Biodiversity Stewardship Sites have been established in the Monaro / Murrumbateman IBRA Subregions. This includes Beatty Hill, which directly borders the eastern boundary of the proposed action area, and an additional four Biodiversity Stewardship Sites in Williamsdale / Burra. These established Biodiversity Stewardship Sites, which have entered into active management, generate the same ecosystem credits and species credits as the proposed action. As such, purchasing credits from these Biodiversity Stewardship Sites could meet almost 100% of the proposed action's offset obligation, and do so through conservation of land that is located close to the proposed action impact area.
3. Paying into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund. The amount which must be paid into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund is determined at the time the proponent applies for an invoice from the Biodiversity Conservation Trust. A risk premium is included in that calculation to account for fact that the risks and costs involved in securing the offset have effectively been transferred to the Biodiversity Conservation Trust.

The final offset strategy would be determined prior to the clearing of any vegetation for the proposed action, and many include only one or a mix of the above options

## Australian Capital Territory

Currently, no offsets have been identified for impacts to MNES in the ACT portion of the proposed action area, being 0.34 ha of EPBC Act Box-Gum Woodland. As the proposed action is considered likely to be determined to be a controlled action, offsets for impacts to MNES in the ACT can be determined during the subsequent assessment process.

#### **4.1.5 Migratory Species**

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

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

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

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

**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.**

\*

As discussed in **Att\_C.1\_NSW\_Biodiversity\_Development\_Assessment\_Report\_Part\_1\_Redacted, Section 2.3.6.2, page 89** (Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att\_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'), the following migratory species was recorded in the proposed action area.

- Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii* (EPBC Act Vulnerable, marine, and migratory, BC Act / NC Act Vulnerable).

Four Latham's Snipe were observed incidentally during Golden Sun Moth *Synemon plana* surveys on 27 November 2020, presumably foraging / roosting in the soak between two dams in the south of the proposed action area. Latham's Snipe is a non-breeding visitor to Australia, and it is likely that they were foraging and roosting in the proposed action area for a short period of time before moving to another location in response to rainfall patterns and the availability of food.

The identified foraging / roosting habitat would not be directly impacted by the proposed action. In addition:

- the Quarry Access Road is over 200 m from the identified foraging / roosting habitat; and
- the extraction, processing, and stockpiling areas are over 600 m from the identified foraging / roosting habitat.

As a minimum 75 m – 110 m buffer to Latham's Snipe habitat is recommended in order to reduce disturbance from human activities, the proposed action is considered unlikely to indirectly impact the species.

## 4.1.6 Nuclear

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

No

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

\*

The proposed action is not a nuclear action.

## 4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

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

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

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

—

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

No

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

\*

The proposed action is not situated near a Commonwealth Marine Area.

**4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef**

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

No

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

\*

The proposed action is located greater than 1,200 km from the Great Barrier Reef.

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

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

No

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

\*

The proposed action is not related to a large coal mining development or coal seam gas development.

**4.1.10 Commonwealth Land**

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

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

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

—

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

No

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

\*

The proposed action is not within, and does not involve, 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.

—

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

No

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

\*

The proposed action is in Australia and will not impact any Commonwealth heritage places overseas.

**4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency**

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

No

## 4.2 Impact summary

### Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

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

- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)

### Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

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

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

## 4.3 Alternatives

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

No

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

No alternatives to this proposal are possible and the location of the proposed action has been determined by the location of the resource, adjusted to avoid or minimise environmental impacts to the greatest extent possible. The timeline for development cannot be varied for an extractive industry development and given market demand for the products of the project. Development would occur in an orderly and staged manner. Detailed planning has been undertaken to determine the scale, magnitude, and duration of the proposed action including the planned extraction, processing, and transport operations as well as coincident environmental management and rehabilitation. The proposed action would be a standard quarry development and there are no alternatives to the activity that would permit access to the resource.

## 5. Lodgement

## 5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_A_The_Proposed_Action_Area_and_Proposed_Action_Impact_Areas.pdf A figure of the proposed action area and proposed action impact areas	06/12/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att_B_The_Proposed_Action.jpg A figure of the principal components of the proposed action	31/03/2025	No	High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_1_High.pdf Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. This unredacted version shows the location of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'	08/08/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_1_High_Redacted.pdf Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'	08/08/2025	No	High
#3.	Document	Att_C.2_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_2_High.pdf Part 2 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This part describes avoidance measures, the impact of the proposed action, and the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme credit liability	08/08/2025	No	High
#4.	Document	Att_D_ACT_Ecological_Impact_Assessment.pdf This Ecological Impact Assessment describes the impact on ecological values of the Quarry Access Road and connection with the Monaro Highway in the ACT	04/11/2025	No	High

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document				

	<p>Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_2025_Report_Part_High.pdf</p> <p>Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. This unredacted version shows the location of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'</p>				
#2.	<p>Document Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_2025_Report_Part_High.pdf</p> <p>Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'</p>				
#3.	<p>Document Att_C.2_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_2025_Report_Part_High.pdf</p> <p>Part 2 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This part describes avoidance measures, the impact of the proposed action, and the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme credit liability</p>				
#4.	<p>Document Att_D_ACT_Ecological_Impact_Assessment_2025_Report_High.pdf</p> <p>This Ecological Impact Assessment describes the impact on ecological values of the Quarry Access Road and connection with the Monaro Highway in the ACT</p>	10/11/2025	No		High

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	<b>Type</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Sensitivity</b>	<b>Confidence</b>
#1.	<p>Document Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_2025_Report_Part_High.pdf</p> <p>Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. This unredacted version shows the location of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'</p>				
#2.	<p>Document Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_2025_Report_Part_High.pdf</p> <p>Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of</p>				

species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'					
#3.	Document	Att_C.2_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_2.pdf	07/08/2025	No	High
Part 2 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This part describes avoidance measures, the impact of the proposed action, and the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme credit liability					
#4.	Document	Att_D_ACT_Ecological_Impact_Assessment.pdf	04/11/2025	No	High
This Ecological Impact Assessment describes the impact on ecological values of the Quarry Access Road and connection with the Monaro Highway in the ACT					
#5.	Document	Att_I_Soil_and_Land_Capability_Assessment.pdf	21/06/2025	No	High
The document describes the soils across the proposed action area and associated land capability and management recommendations					

3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_J_Aboriginal_Cultural_Heritage_and_Archaeology_Report.pdf	04/06/2025	Yes	High
This document describes the Aboriginal cultural heritage and archaeological findings of relevance to the proposed action area					

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_K_Surface_Water_Management_Report.pdf	08/08/2025	No	High
The document describes the hydrology of the proposed action area and management of water associated with operation of the proposed action					

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_C.2_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_2.pdf	07/08/2025	No	High
Part 2 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This part describes avoidance measures, the impact of the proposed action, and the					

NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme credit liability				
#2.	Document	Att_D_ACT_Ecological_Impact_Assessment.pdf	01/11/2025	No High
This Ecological Impact Assessment describes the impact on ecological values of the Quarry Access Road and connection with the Monaro Highway in the ACT				

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_C.2_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_2.pdf	07/08/2025	No High
Part 2 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This part describes avoidance measures, the impact of the proposed action, and the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme credit liability				

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_C.2_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_2.pdf	07/08/2025	No High
Part 2 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This part describes avoidance measures, the impact of the proposed action, and the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme credit liability				
#2.	Document	Att_E_Extraction_and_Processing_Area_Options.pdf	01/08/2025	No High
A figure options considered for the extraction and processing areas				
#3.	Document	Att_F_Extraction_Area_Refinement_Options.pdf	01/08/2025	No High
A figure of the options considered for the refined extraction area				
#4.	Document	Att_G_Project_Site_Access_Options.pdf	01/08/2025	No High
A figure of the options considered for the proposed action access				
#5.	Document	Att_H_Quarry_Access_Road_Design_Options.pdf	01/08/2025	No High
A figure of the two most feasible quarry access road design options that were considered				

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity Confidence
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#1.	Document	Att_C.2_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_2.pdf	07/08/2025	High
Part 2 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This part describes avoidance measures, the impact of the proposed action, and the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme credit liability				

4.1.5.3 (Migratory Species) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_1.pdf	07/08/2025	High	
Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. This unredacted version shows the location of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'					
#2.	Document	Att_C.1_NSW_Biodiversity_Development_Assessment_Report_Part_1_Redacted.pdf	07/08/2025	High	
Part 1 of the NSW Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This report describes the ecological values of the proposed action area. Figure 9 and Figure 12 of Att_C.1 have been partly redacted due to the occurrence of species on the referral guide's 'Sensitivity List'					

## 5.2 Declarations

## ✔ Completed Referring party's declaration

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

---

ABN/ACN	50607364358
Organisation name	CAPITAL ECOLOGY PTY LTD
Organisation address	2620 NSW
Representative's name	Robert Speirs
Representative's job title	Director / Principal Ecologist
Phone	0412474415
Email	rob@capitalecology.com.au
Address	PO Box 854, Gungahlin ACT 2912

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

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. \*

By checking this box, I, **Robert Speirs of CAPITAL ECOLOGY PTY LTD**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. \*

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your [profile](#).

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## ✔ 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	11634425862
Organisation name	MONARO ROCK PTY LTD
Organisation address	2620 NSW
Representative's name	Peter Hewson

Representative's job title	Group General Manager
Phone	0429 001 476
Email	Peter.Hewson@monaromix.com.au
Address	9 Bowen Place QUEANBEYAN WEST NSW 2620

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

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. \*

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

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your [profile](#).

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## 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. \*

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. \*

I, **Peter Hewson of MONARO ROCK PTY LTD**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. \*

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your [profile](#).