

# CSIRO Divestment of Rural Blocks

Application Number: 02526

Commencement Date:  
29/07/2024

Status: Locked

## 1. About the project

### 1.1 Project details

#### 1.1.1 Project title \*

CSIRO Divestment of Rural Blocks

#### 1.1.2 Project industry type \*

Commonwealth

#### 1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

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#### 1.1.4 Estimated start date \*

29/11/2024

#### 1.1.4 Estimated end date \*

01/10/2034

### 1.2 Proposed Action details

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

This referral, made under Part 7 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act), relates to:

- the divestment (the **Proposed Action**)

- by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (**CSIRO**) (note that CSIRO is the PPA, PDP and RP for the Proposed Action)
- of the former CSIRO Ginninderra Experiment Station, identified as Rural Blocks 1426, 1427, 1545, 1609 and 1630 District of Belconnen, Australian Capital Territory (ACT) (**the Proposed Action Area**).

The Proposed Action is the sale of National Land. Currently, the blocks are owned and managed by CSIRO (the former CSIRO Ginninderra Experiment Station), considered Commonwealth Land for the purposes of the EPBC Act, and it is proposed to sell them to a non-Commonwealth entity (**the Purchaser**). At the conclusion of the sale, the Proposed Action Area will lose its status as Commonwealth land and become Territory Land.

The EPBC Act applies to the proposed action as there may be facilitated impacts to the whole of environment on what was previously considered and protected as Commonwealth land.

Any subsequent development of the Proposed Action Area by or on behalf of the purchaser (**the Purchaser**) is not included as part of the Proposed Action for the purposes of this Referral. In this regard, CSIRO does not intend to be involved with the development of the Proposed Action Area post-divestment and does not, at the time of this Referral, know the likely layout or design of that development. CSIRO has structured the Proposed Action in order to ensure that identified conservation areas (see below) are preserved and any direct or indirect impact from any future development is minimised through the creation of interface zones (discussed below).

### Conservation Commitments

The entire Proposed Action Area is 701.65 hectares (ha). Of that area, 219.57 ha is proposed to be designated as **Conservation Areas**, not for any future development. These Conservation Areas will include areas of habitat for protected species and ecological communities; as well as areas of native vegetation, urban parkland, and hills, ridges and buffers that will provide increased habitat connectivity. These Conservation Areas would be managed, initially, via an Environmental Management Plan (**EMP**) for the Proposed Action Area (an outline of which is included as **Attachment A**).

In addition to the designated Conservation Areas, **Interface Zones** of 30m to 50m have also been mapped around parts of the Conservation Areas to protect **matters of national environmental significance (MNES)** from impacts during anticipated future construction activities, and ongoing indirect impacts from operation. The Interface Zones cover a collective area of 61.53 ha across the Proposed Action Area, and may contain infrastructure, edge roads, and asset protection zones in the future.

A total of 281.1 ha will be considered non-developable of the 701.65 ha (i.e. 40.1%).

CSIRO is in discussions with ACT Government regarding future management of the Conservation Areas. CSIRO is committed to ensuring (to the extent legally possible) that the Conservation Areas are protected in perpetuity. In the long term, the Conservation Areas are proposed to be protected in perpetuity through a Conservation Management Plan (**CMP**).

At this stage, CSIRO will transfer responsibility for ongoing management of the Conservation Areas to the Purchaser with effect from the relevant divestment dates (i.e. the settlement dates for the respective sale contracts). From these dates, the Purchaser will be required to conserve the Conservation Areas in

accordance with the EMP until such time as: (a) a Construction Environmental Management Plan (**CEMP**) has been prepared for areas of development and approved by the relevant regulator; and (b) a CMP has been prepared to ensure the ongoing management of the Conservation Areas. To that end, CSIRO intends to require, via the Contract of Sale in respect of the Proposed Action Area (**the Sale Contract**), that the Purchaser will assume, and procure that any third-party developer of the Proposed Action Area shall assume, obligations:

- to manage Interface Zones and Conservation Areas of the Proposed Action Area in accordance with the EMP; and
- to prepare and comply with a CEMP in relation to the developable areas and Interface Zones; and
- to prepare and comply with a CMP for the Conservation Areas which is consistent with the EMP.

### Timing

The divestment of the Proposed Action Area by CSIRO is intended to occur in two tranches and for the purpose of a future staged urban development. Tranche one is intended to be divested imminently and tranche two is anticipated to be divested within 24 months. If, as an outcome of future development plans with respect to the Proposed Action Area, it is determined that a net ecological benefit can still be achieved by consolidating or rationalising proposed Conservation Areas in that part of the Proposed Action Area referred to as 'Ginninderra West', or otherwise if all impacts to MNES in Ginninderra West cannot be avoided, a new EPBC Act Referral may be submitted (either by CSIRO or the Purchaser).

Additionally, a steering group will be established to provide oversight and management of, and adherence to, the EMP (**the Steering Group**). The Steering Group will include representative(s) of CSIRO, as well as other parties to be determined in consultation with the Purchaser. The continuing involvement of CSIRO in the management of the Conservation Areas will assist in ensuring they are preserved following the Proposed Action. During the transition period until the Purchaser takes full control over the relevant portion of the Proposed Action Area (following the settlement of the Sale Contract for the relevant tranche of property) CSIRO will manage the Proposed Action Area through the implementation of the EMP.

### Environmental Context and Investigation

While remediation activities have been undertaken in line with the site's Remediation Action Plan (CH2M, 2018), some minor residual contamination remains present on parts of the site. This largely exists proximate to existing and former farm buildings, a builder's spoil landfill and a former underground storage tank (which has been removed). CSIRO has engaged a site auditor and a Remediation and Validation Plan is currently being prepared. CSIRO intends to undertake any further remediation works in accordance with the Remediation Action Plan and the Remediation and Validation Plan to ensure there is no significant impact on the environment on National Land.

There are a number of heritage values within the Proposed Action Area. This includes 23 sites and seven Potential Archaeological Deposits (**PADs**) across the Proposed Action Area. Four of the PADs were rated as having high archaeological potential. Additionally, the Proposed Action Area has been assessed as having heritage significance for its historical archaeological potential, which is focussed on the area of the former Charnwood Homestead. These heritage values will be managed under the EMP, with reference to the existing Heritage Management Plan (**Attachment B**, Section 7, 8 and 9 pages 59-80) and Aboriginal Archaeological Research Design (**AARD**) (**Attachment C**, general reference).

There are also several ecological values within the Proposed Action Area. Two threatened ecological communities occur within the Proposed Action Area, being Natural Temperate Grassland of the South Eastern Highlands and White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland. In addition, the Proposed Action Area is known to support habitat for a range of threatened species. These ecological values have been assessed in detail against the significant impact criteria in **Attachment I** (Section 3, pages 5-53) of this Referral.

As is further discussed in this Referral, the Proposed Action will not have any direct impacts on matters of national environmental significance (**MNES**) or the environment as a whole, and any indirect impacts will be minor and appropriately managed through the implementation of the EMP and subsequent CEMP and CMP. As such, CSIRO considers the Proposed Action will not be a controlled action.

Attachments B and C as well as figures mapping indigenous heritage values will not be made publicly available due to cultural sensitivity reasons.

### **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? \***

Planning and development in the ACT is governed by two separate but related planning jurisdictions and statutory controls, being: the National Capital Plan (**NCP**) administered by the National Capital Authority (**NCA**); and the Territory Plan administered by the ACT Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (**EPSDD**).

The Proposed Action Area is presently National Land (as opposed to Territory Land) and is leased by CSIRO, a corporate Commonwealth entity, pursuant to a Crown Lease. The NCP applies to:

- specific Designated Areas within the ACT; and
- National Land outside of these Designated Areas, which includes the Proposed Action Area.

As such, the jurisdiction for planning and development proposals in respect of the Proposed Action Area currently sits with the NCA.

In 2015, CSIRO commenced broad community consultation and sought an amendment to the NCP to facilitate new opportunities for sustainable urban development on the Proposed Action Area and the relevant science that CSIRO could contribute to such development.

In 2016, the Proposed Action Area was reclassified as 'Urban' on the General Policy Plan for Metropolitan Canberra, through an amendment to the NCP. The rezoning has allowed for CSIRO to approach the market to seek interest in a sustainable urban development informed by science and innovation. The Territory Plan reflects this planning control under the NCA and shows an Overlay Zone code 'U' which denotes that this area is National Land proposed for urban development.

As described above, the Proposed Action is for the Proposed Action Area to be divested, in two tranches, for future staged development.

CSIRO intends that the National Land status of the Proposed Action Area will be revoked upon divestment and the Proposed Action Area will become Territory Land. Following this, approval for subdivisions and civil works and individual development applications for dwellings and/or residential community facilities will be pursued by the Purchaser in accordance with the provisions of the Territory Plan administered by the EPSDD.

The EPBC Act is the Australian Government's key piece of environmental legislation. It provides the legal framework for the protection and management of the nine MNES and governs actions undertaken by Australian Government Agencies or on Commonwealth land. The nine MNES are:

- World Heritage properties
- National Heritage properties
- Wetlands of international important (Ramsar wetlands)
- Nationally threatened species and ecological communities
- Migratory species
- Commonwealth marine areas
- The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- Nuclear Actions (including uranium mining)
- A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development

According to the EPBC Act, a proposed action will be a **controlled action** if it:

- has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment on Commonwealth land (s 26(1));
- is proposed to be taken by a Commonwealth agency and has, will or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment (s 28); or
- has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on a listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community (s 18).

It is not considered that the Proposed Action would be a controlled action as there are no direct or indirect impacts likely to have a significant impact on MNES or to the environment in the Proposed Action Area.

**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 2015, CSIRO has engaged extensively with the community and key stakeholder groups with the following objectives:

- to keep the community informed about CSIRO's intentions in relation to the Ginninderra Experiment Station (being the Proposed Action Area); and
- to give the community the opportunity to offer ideas and ask questions about the proposed future development of the Proposed Action Area.

The engagement has been guided by the international best practice principles for engagement of the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2), and CSIRO has been supported by professional community engagement expertise in planning and delivering engagement activities.

The main elements of the approach have been:

- Community drop-in sessions: Five sessions have been held in surrounding suburbs – with open invitations to anyone interested in attending - and have provided members of the community the

opportunity to ask questions about the Proposed Action, and to offer ideas for the future use of the Proposed Action Area.

- Meetings and briefings with community groups: These have involved both local groups and community councils representing residents and ACT-wide peak bodies, and has involved attendance at community organisation meetings, separate meetings, field days and on-site information sessions hosted by CSIRO for particular groups, and individual meetings and phone calls with group representatives at key points.
- Theme-based engagement and collaboration: More in-depth engagement on important issues has taken place, in particular:
  - Affordable Housing Think Tank with key experts from around Australia.
  - Woodland Restoration Planting Days for any interested community members have taken place within the Proposed Action Area on multiple occasions. These have proved to be a valuable opportunity for community members to visit the site and understand CSIRO's commitment to environmental sustainability outcomes. Additionally, planting days were designed to support the ecological resilience of the Proposed Action Area, particularly in areas of EPBC Act listed grassy woodland by restoring the missing shrubby midstorey, which has historically been lost in agricultural regions. This was completed through the planting of a patchy mosaic of native shrubs, which can provide key habitat for breeding and foraging for small woodland birds.

In relation to consultation with Traditional Owners, four Registered Aboriginal Organisations (**RAOs**) (Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation, King Brown Tribal Group, Little Gudgenby River Tribal Council and Ngarigu Currawong Clan) were consulted during the preparation of the Proposed Action Area's Heritage Management Plan (**HMP**) (**Attachment B**), through attendance at surveys, monitoring of excavations, and provision of review and comments on the existing HMP. Ongoing engagement with RAOs has been undertaken since the release of the heritage report.

Attachment B will not be made publicly available due to cultural sensitivity reasons.

## 1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

### Privacy Notice:

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

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

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

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

See our Privacy Policy to learn more about accessing or correcting personal information or making a complaint. Alternatively, email us at [privacy@awe.gov.au](mailto:privacy@awe.gov.au).

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

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

Yes

Referring party organisation details

<b>ABN/ACN</b>	41687119230
<b>Organisation name</b>	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)
<b>Organisation address</b>	CSIRO Black Mountain Science and Innovation Park, Clunies Ross Street, ACTON ACT 2601

Referring party details

<b>Name</b>	Tessa Cox
<b>Job title</b>	Project Officer - Capital Works
<b>Phone</b>	0436950413
<b>Email</b>	tessa.cox@csiro.au
<b>Address</b>	CSIRO, 36 Bradfield rd, West Lindfield NSW 2070

**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? \***

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

<b>ABN/ACN</b>	41687119230
<b>Organisation name</b>	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)
<b>Organisation address</b>	CSIRO Black Mountain Science and Innovation Park, Clunies Ross Street, ACTON ACT 2601

Person proposing to take the action details

<b>Name</b>	Tessa Cox
<b>Job title</b>	Project Officer - Capital Works
<b>Phone</b>	0436950413
<b>Email</b>	tessa.cox@csiro.au
<b>Address</b>	CSIRO, 36 Bradfield rd, West Lindfield NSW 2070

**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. \***

CSIRO has a diverse portfolio of properties around Australia and is responsible for the maintenance as well as new works on those sites. CSIRO has undertaken works under the EPBC Act, as well as consulting with local authorities, and has satisfactorily implemented all the conditions of our previous approvals.

CSIRO has a Health, Safety and Environment Policy (2024) and is committed to the safety, health and wellbeing of our people, partners, customers, and the environment, provided as **Attachment J**.



CSIRO has no record of ever having been the subject of any prosecution or civil proceeding under ACT, State, Territory or Commonwealth environmental or natural resources legislation which is relevant or material to this Referral.

Previous referrals include:

- 2019/8527: Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation/Commonwealth/421 Discovery Drive, Paddys River/Australian Capital Territory/Canberra Deep Space Solar Array.
- 2017/7874: Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation/Science and Research/Lot 502 on plan 55945, Murgoo-Boolardy Road, Murchison/Western Australia/Development of the Square Kilometre Array 1 radio telescope -Low Frequency Aperture Array, Boolardy Station, Murchison, WA.
- 2014/7142: CSIRO/Commonwealth/CSIRO Black Mountain Campus/ACT/CSIRO Black Mountain Masterplan Phase 1&2 new & improved facilities.
- 2012/6633: CSIRO/Science and Research/Tidbinbilla/Australian Capital Territory/Construction of Two Additional Antennas at the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex.
- 2011/5895: CSIRO/Commonwealth/Silo Road, Black Mountain /Australian Capital Territory/Archival recording & demolition of two Commonwealth Heritage Listed buildings.
- 2010/5560: CSIRO/Commonwealth/17 (Lot 15) Dick Perry Avenue, Kensington, Perth/WA/Construction of Pawsey High Performance Computing Centre.
- 2009/4895: CSIRO/Science and research/Tidbinbilla/ACT/Construction of Two Antennae at the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex, Tidbinbilla, ACT.
- 2009/4891: CSIRO Australia Telescope National Facility/Science and research/Northern section of Boolardy Station, Pindar-Berringarra Rd/WA/Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder telescope & infrastructure.
- 2006/2948: CSIRO/Commonwealth/90 Heath Road (NT Portion 9191) Alice Springs/Northern Territory/Subdivision of land into three portions and future sale of two portions.
- 2006/2755: CSIRO/Urban and commercial redevelopment/Berrimah/NT/Subdivision of Two Sites (1712 and 1713) into four Portions.
- 2005/2285: CSIRO Australia/Commercial Development/Waterford, Perth/Western Australia/extensions to minerals laboratory.
- 2005/2143: CSIRO/Science and Research/Black Mountain/Australian Capital Territory/Construct Bioscience Lab and associated works.
- 2003/1141: CSIRO Corporate Property/Residential Development/West Lindfield/New South Wales/Residential subdivision and stormwater management facilities.
- 2002/837: CSIRO Corporate Property/Waste management/Prospect/NSW/Site remediation and waste disposal.
- 2002/608: CSIRO Corporate Property/Waste management/CSIRO Bradfield Park Laboratories, West Lindfield/NSW/Remediation of contaminated asbestos site.
- 2001/504: CSIRO Australia/Buildings/Armidale/NSW/CSIRO Chiswick site extension.

### **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**

CSIRO is a statutory corporation established pursuant to the *Science and Industry Research Act 1949* (Cth). CSIRO is committed to the safety, health and wellbeing of its people, partners, customers and the environment. The Proposed Action and this EPBC Referral are in accordance with CSIRO's Health, Safety and Environment Policy (CSIRO, 2024), provided as **Attachment J**.

### 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

<b>ABN/ACN</b>	41687119230
<b>Organisation name</b>	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)
<b>Organisation address</b>	CSIRO Black Mountain Science and Innovation Park, Clunies Ross Street, ACTON ACT 2601

##### Proposed designated proponent details

<b>Name</b>	Tessa Cox
<b>Job title</b>	Project Officer - Capital Works
<b>Phone</b>	0436950413
<b>Email</b>	tessa.cox@csiro.au
<b>Address</b>	CSIRO, 36 Bradfield rd, West Lindfield NSW 2070

### 1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

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

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ABN/ACN	41687119230
Organisation name	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)
Organisation address	CSIRO Black Mountain Science and Innovation Park, Clunies Ross Street, ACTON ACT 2601
Representative's name	Tessa Cox
Representative's job title	Project Officer - Capital Works
Phone	0436950413
Email	tessa.cox@csiro.au
Address	CSIRO, 36 Bradfield rd, West Lindfield NSW 2070

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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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Same as Referring party information.

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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.

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Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

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## 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

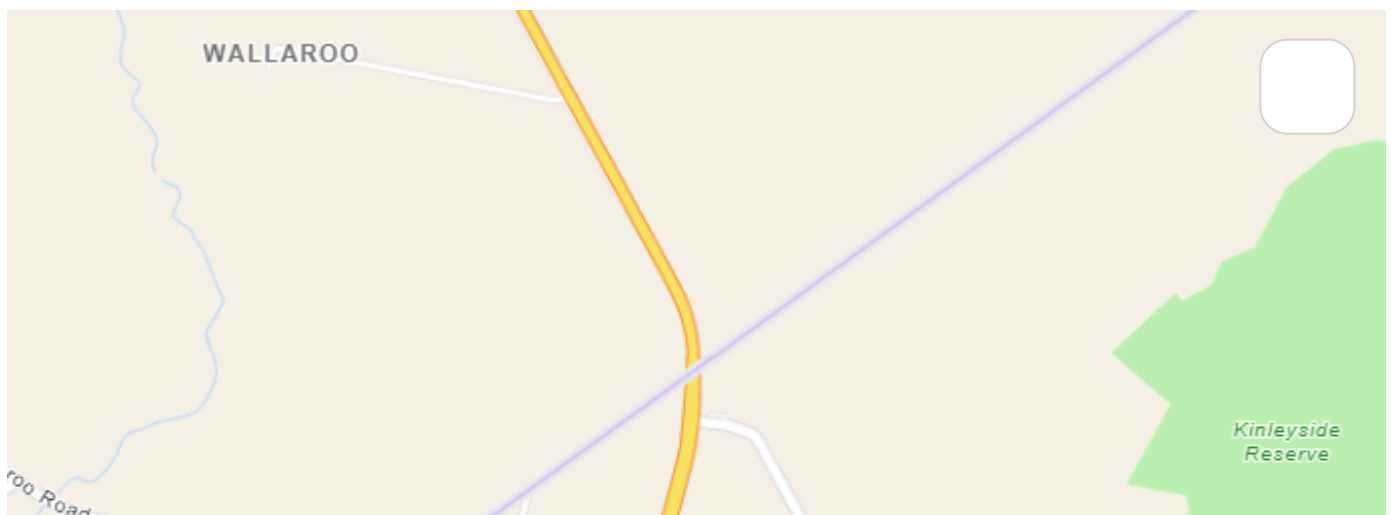
## 1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

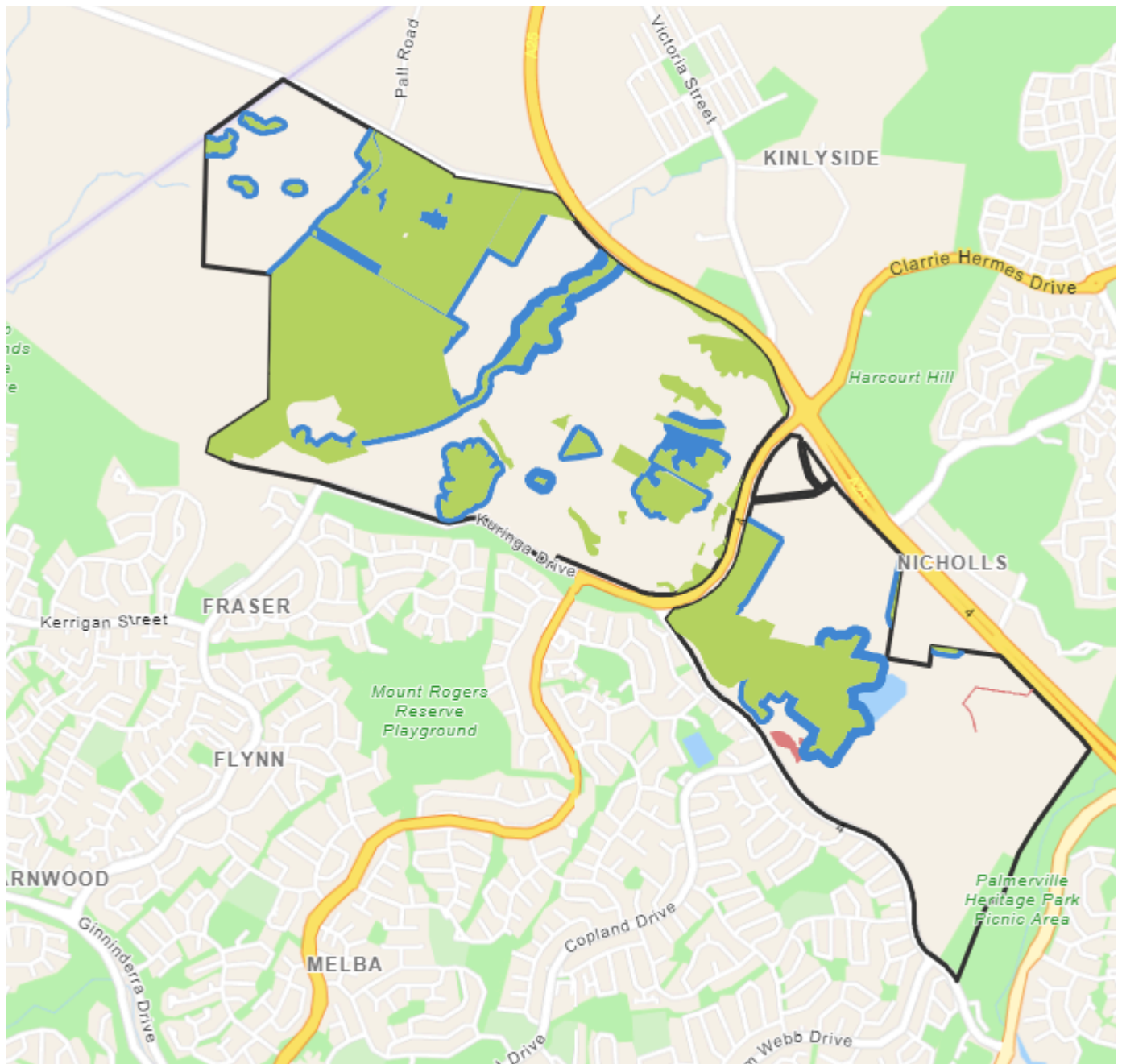
**1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? \***

Person proposing to take the action

# 2. Location

## 2.1 Project footprint





Project area: 701.56 Ha      Disturbance footprint: 1.98 Ha  
 Avoidance area: 61.45 Ha      Retention area: 219.54 Ha

-35.203370, 149.095373

Powered By Esri - Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, F...

## 2.2 Footprint details

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

Barton Highway, Blocks 1426, 1427, 1545, 1609 and 1630 District of Belconnen, Australian Capital Territory

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

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

No

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

The land tenure (or titling) system in the ACT is managed through Crown Leases, issued either by the Commonwealth (Department of Finance) or the Territory (EPSDD).

Four of the five blocks were issued Crown Leases on 1 March 2006 for a term of 99 years. The remaining block was issued a Crown Lease for 17 years, which was renewed in 2023 to put it in alignment with the other blocks. All five Crown Leases are now valid until 28 February 2105.

Under the Proposed Action, it is intended that these Crown Leases will be transferred to the Purchaser, following which it is proposed that the National Land status will be revoked by the Commonwealth Finance Minister under the Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988 (Cth) and the Australian Capital Territory National Land (Leased) Ordinance 2022 (Cth). The future subdivision, development and any subsequent changes to the Crown Leases for the Proposed Action Area will be managed by and be the responsibility of the Purchaser.

## 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 in Ginninderra, approximately 5 km from Belconnen Town Centre. The Proposed Action Area is National Land outside Designated Areas and zoned NUZ3: hills, ridges and buffer areas. In 2016, the Proposed Action Area was reclassified as 'Urban' on the General Policy Plan for Metropolitan Canberra through an Amendment to the NCP. The Territory Plan reflects this planning control under the NCA and shows an Overlay Zone code 'U' which denotes that this area is Nation Land proposed for urban development.

The National Land status of the Proposed Action Area will be revoked after the divestment and the land will become Territory Land.

The Proposed Action Area supports a range of environmental conditions and vegetation types. The condition of the Proposed Action Area's environment is outlined in **Attachment D** (Ginninderra West Ecological Assessment Section 4, page 33-69) and **Attachment E** (Ecological Values of CSIRO Ginninderra Research Station Section 4, pages 19-35) and summarised below.

The majority of the Proposed Action Area is highly disturbed, having been used for agricultural (predominantly grazing and cropping) purposes for numerous decades.

The Proposed Action Area is known to, or likely to, support the following MNES:

- White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum grassy woodland and derived native grasslands Critically Endangered Ecological Community (**CEEC**) – 122.44 ha.
- Natural Temperate Grassland of the South Eastern Highlands CEEC – 0.66 ha.
- Golden sun moth (*Synemon plana*) – 41.35 ha.
- Striped legless lizard (*Delma impar*) – 9.61 ha of suitable habitat, with presence confirmed through targeted surveys in 2014 (Umwelt 2016) and 2017 (Capital Ecology 2018).
- Superb parrot (*Polytelis swainsonii*) – 10 hollow bearing trees suitable for breeding habitat.
- Keys Matchstick Grasshopper (*Keyacris scurra*) -0.1 ha.
- Gang-gang cockatoo (*Callocephalon fimbriatum*) – 39 hollow bearing trees suitable for breeding habitat.

The Proposed Action Area supports remnant, planted and regenerating native trees that provide woodland birds with foraging and breeding habitat and movement corridors. Notably, the Proposed Action Area contains 39 hollow-bearing trees (HBTs) that would be suitable breeding habitat for gang-gang cockatoos. Of these 39 HBTs, 10 would also be suitable breeding habitat for superb parrot. The Proposed Action Area also contains habitat in the form of large areas of native vegetation and grasslands which constitute foraging habitat for a range of threatened woodland bird species.

The Proposed Action Area also contains approximately 51 ha of native grasslands that comprise potential habitat for perunga grasshopper (*Perunga ochracea*), which is endangered under the *Nature Conservation Act 2014* (ACT) (**NC Act**). This species is not listed under the EPBC Act.

A number of exotic animals have been observed within the Proposed Action Area, including foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), cats (*Felis catus*), rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), rodents (black rat (*Rattus rattus*) and house mouse (*Mus musculus*). In addition, the Proposed Action Area is also known to accommodate a small population of Eastern grey kangaroo (*Macropus giganteus*). Management of these exotic and native populations would be included within the proposed EMP.

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

The Proposed Action Area is CSIRO's former Ginninderra Experiment Station which was established in the late 1950s as an agricultural research facility predominantly focussed on crop testing. The Proposed Action Area has been subject to intensive land use including regular crop rotation, vegetation clearing, livestock grazing and research activities.

The Proposed Action Area is 701.65 ha with 80 ha of irrigated, arable land used for crop research. The remainder of the land has been used for grazing/agricultural uses.

The purpose of the Proposed Action Area has historically been to facilitate agriculture and farming research. Research conducted on the site has included:

- wheat and other plant breeding trials
- sustainable agriculture and pastoral trials
- studies on the effects of climate change on crop production
- field trials on genetically modified crops and other plants
- dryland and irrigation farming experiments, and
- carbon dioxide storage trials.

Over the past ten years, CSIRO has commissioned a multi-stage, expert-led process to investigate the environmental conditions of the Proposed Action Area and its suitability for urban development.

As described above, the Proposed Action is for the Proposed Action Area to be divested for future staged development. Future uses of the Proposed Action Area would consist of urban development and conservation.

CSIRO intends that the Purchaser will be required to adhere to an EMP, and this will be included as a condition in the Sale Contract. The EMP will also require the preparation of a CEMP for the development areas and Interface Zones, as well as a CMP for the ongoing management of the Conservation Areas.

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

The Proposed Action Area contains a number of MNES and areas of potential habitat for ACT listed woodland birds, notably mature native habitat trees. These are further described and assessed in **Attachment I**, see section 3.4, pages 7-49. These species will be protected within the proposed EMP. The undulating topography of the Proposed Action Area also provides views across to Black Mountain and surrounding hills and ridgelines. These views are typical of much of Belconnen and North Canberra.

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

Approximately 20% of the Proposed Action Area has a slope less than 2.5%, while 40% has a slope between 2.5 and 5%, and the remaining 40% has a slope greater than 5%. These grades mean that most of the Proposed Action Area drains fairly rapidly. In summary, site gradients are conducive to urban development.

The eastern portion of the Proposed Action Area drains to the southeast into Ginninderra Creek, while the western portion of the site is bisected by Halls Creek which drains into Gooromon Ponds. The Proposed Action Area contains one drainage line and large irrigation dam in the east and a small dam, Halls Pond, as well as two creek lines draining into Halls Creek, in the west.

## **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.**



The Proposed Action Area is vegetated but has been highly modified from its natural state. The Proposed Action Area is characterised by undulating slopes with a mosaic of grassy woodland, native grassland area, exotic pastures and planted vegetation, and small areas of floodplain adjacent to Ginninderra Creek and Halls Creek.

Ecological assessments of the Proposed Action Area completed in 2013 (**Attachment F**, pages 5-11; 11-12; 12-14), 2016 (**Attachment E**, Section 4, Pages 19-34), and 2023 (**Attachment D**, Section 4, Pages 33-66) have identified:

- 95 species of birds, including three Vulnerable birds under the NC Act (little eagle – breeding, scarlet robin and white-winged triller), one migratory bird under the EPBC Act (Latham's snipe)
- 12 species of reptiles, including striped legless lizard (Vulnerable under the EPBC Act and NC Act)
- 3 species of frogs (non-targeted list likely to be more)
- 243 plant taxa across 62 plant families, including 128 native taxa, 117 exotic taxa and 16 planted native taxa.

The following vegetation communities have also been identified:

- Yellow Box- Blakely's Red Gum grassy woodland and derived native grasslands are present in a variety of conditions, including derived native grasslands and a mature canopy with an exotic understorey.
- Scribbly gum woodland – areas dominated by scribbly gum (*Eucalyptus rossii*) and red stringybark (*E. macrorhyncha*), and generally with a native understorey.
- Planted vegetation – areas occurring either as small, planted eucalypt woodlots with exotic trees co-occurring ('Exotic Woody Vegetation (mixed)' or stands of mature Monterey pine (*Pinus radiata*).
- Aquatic vegetation – fringing aquatic vegetation containing *Typha orientalis*, *Carex appressa* and *Eleocharis acuta*, and exotic grasses.
- Exotic pastures dominated by *Phalaris aquatica*, *Eragrostis curvula* and annual and biennial grasses such as *Avena spp.* and *Holcus lanatus*.

A tree survey assessment was conducted by dsb Landscape Architects in 2014 for the eastern section of the Proposed Action Area (**Attachment G**, general reference). The assessment found that the Proposed Action Area includes locally native tree species, including apple box (*Eucalyptus bridgesiana*), Blakely's red gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*), yellow box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), and brittle gum (*Eucalyptus mannifera*). The majority of trees identified within the assessment were mature tree plantings; however, there are also areas of native vegetation and scattered remnant paddock trees, some of which are very large and support habitat features such as hollows. A tree assessment for the western portion of the Proposed Action Area is currently being completed.

In addition to common fauna species including mammals, reptiles and amphibians, the Proposed Action Area contains potential habitat for a range of threatened species. In addition to EPBC Act-listed MNES previously described, the Proposed Action Area also supports threatened species listed under the NC Act and *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (NSW) (**BC Act**). Species and ecological communities listed under the NC Act that either have known presence or are likely to be present within the Proposed Action Area include:

- Yellow Box – Red Gum Grassy Woodland (Critically Endangered ecological community)
- Natural Temperate Grassland (Critically Endangered Ecological Community)
- Native vegetation as defined in the NC Act
- Remnant native trees as defined in the *Urban Forest Act 2023* (ACT) (**Urban Forest Act**) – noting that some trees protected under this Act will be within developable areas of the Proposed Action Area.
- Golden sun moth (*Synemon plana*) (Endangered)
- Striped legless lizard (*Delma impar*) (Vulnerable)
- Superb Parrot (*Polytelis swainsonii*) (Vulnerable)

- Keys Matchstick Grasshopper (*Keyacris scurra*) (Endangered)
- Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*) (Vulnerable) – confirmed nesting site
- White-winged Triller (*Lalage tricolor*) (Vulnerable)
- Scarlet Robin (*Petroica boodang*) (Vulnerable)
- Varied sitella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*) (Vulnerable)

As part of the ACT Native Woodland Conservation Strategy and Action Plans 2019, 'woodland fauna habitat' includes woodland that is not listed under either the EPBC Act or the NC Act (such as Plant Community Type (PCT) 16.6 and 16.7 Box Gum Grassy Woodlands). This has been identified as 'threatened woodland bird habitat' within figures included in **Figures Attachment to Attachment I** (Section 7, Figures 4b and 4c).

Species listed under the BC Act, in addition to those also listed under the NC Act, that either have known presence or are likely to be present within the Proposed Action Area include:

- Dusky woodswallow (*Artamus cyanopterus*) (Vulnerable)
- Flame robin (*Petroica phoenicea*) (Vulnerable)
- Diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*) (Vulnerable)
- Speckled warbler (*Chthonicola sagittatus*) (Vulnerable)

Habitat for these species is included within the identified 'threatened woodland bird habitat', as shown in **Figures Attachment to Attachment I** (Section 7, Figures 4b and 4c).

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

The Proposed Action Area is vegetated but has been highly modified from its natural state. The Proposed Action Area is characterised by undulating slopes with a mosaic of grassy woodland, native grassland area, exotic pastures and planted vegetation, and small areas of floodplain adjacent to Ginninderra Creek.

122.44 ha of box-gum woodland and derived native grasslands meet the criteria for the EPBC Act listed *White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum grassy woodland and derived native grasslands* CEEC.

Other areas supporting tree species indicative of this community have an understorey dominated by exotic perennial grasses as a result of the agricultural history and do not meet criteria for inclusion in the CEEC. This includes areas within the Conservation Areas, woodland plantings adjacent to Barton Highway and a patch of planted but naturally regenerating *E. melliodora* and *E. blakelyi* located in the developable area of the Proposed Action Area. This latter patch is located entirely within the pine forest in the south east of the Proposed Action Area.

In the western section of the Proposed Action Area there are three vegetation zones which conform with the listing criteria for the CEEC. These vegetation communities are ACT16.1, ACT16.2 and ACT16.5. ACT16.1 contains a high number of native non-grass understorey species. ACT 16.2 does not have the high number of native non-grass understorey species present, although does contain two important species and forms a larger patch with an average of 20 or more mature trees per hectare and has regeneration of the dominant overstorey eucalypts. ACT16.5 conforms to the listing criteria on the basis of a predominantly native understorey that has connectivity across the landscape. There are internal dirt roads within the overall patch that divide the condition and quality of the habitat, nonetheless it is connected and conforms to the criteria. These communities are primarily concentrated in the north of the western section of the Proposed Action Area.

A small patch of moderate to high condition box-gum woodland exists at the eastern boundary of the Proposed Action Area, adjacent to the Barton Highway within the Ginninderra Police Station heritage site (refer to **Attachment B**, Section 1.3.3, Page 4). The edges of this patch enter into the Proposed Action Area and have been accounted for within the proposed Conservation Areas.

Woodland supporting planted, regenerating or mature woodland trees that does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the CEEC, due to a predominantly exotic understorey, have been identified as providing important local habitat for NC Act and EPBC Act listed threatened woodland birds. Where possible, these areas have been incorporated into the Conservation Areas to retain habitat and connectivity for threatened woodland birds.

Additionally, areas of scribbly gum woodland and native grasslands derived from scribbly gum woodland within the central part of the Proposed Action Area support golden sun moth. These areas have been incorporated into the Conservation Areas. Targeted surveys for golden sun moth were also undertaken in the western portion of the Proposed Action Area in 2023 (**Attachment D** Ginninderra West Ecological Assessment Section 4.5, page 61) which found 23.26 ha of potential golden sun moth habitat. The dominant habitat condition was 'Moderate' quality due to the presence of larval feed species *Austrostipa bigeniculata* and *Rytidosperma spp.* and moderate weed cover, however no individuals were identified during targeted surveys. These areas of habitat will be incorporated into the Conservation Areas.

The remainder of the Proposed Action Area consists of a mixture of both remnant and planted native and exotic trees.

## 3.3 Heritage

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

The Proposed Action Area does not contain any listed places or objects protected under the *Heritage Act 2004* (ACT) or Commonwealth Heritage Register.

The Proposed Action Area was assessed (ERM 2016) as including areas of historic archaeological potential and adjoins historic heritage sites such as the former Ginninderra Cottage Complex which abuts the Palmerville Heritage Park site. The Palmerville Heritage Park is a listed item on the ACT Heritage Register (ERM 2014 – ACT Heritage Register ID #20104).

The former Ginninderra Police Station site is situated on Block 1580 Belconnen to the east of the Proposed Action Area, next to the Barton Highway and was listed on the ACT Heritage Register (ACT Heritage Register ID #20005). In its statement of significance, the Ginninderra Police Station is recognised as a rare example of a small rural police station and residence predating the development of the Federal Capital Territory. Unfortunately, the site was recently vandalised and burnt down.

As part of these investigations, a HMP was developed to enable further investigation and management of any archaeological potential within the Proposed Action Area (ERM 2016) (refer to **Attachment B** Section 7, pages 59-77). As all registered historic items are not within the Proposed Action Area, and any archaeological potential will be managed through the HMP, it is considered unlikely that the Proposed Action will have any direct or indirect impacts on historic heritage values within the Proposed Action Area.

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

The Proposed Action Area contains a number of identified Indigenous heritage values. These are proposed to be protected by the EMP, through the implementation of the existing HMP (**Attachment B**) and AARD (**Attachment C**).

Seven scarred trees and 16 stone artefact sites have been identified within the Proposed Action Area. Of note, the following sites were considered to be of high value, containing a significant number of surface artefacts:

- G2 – contained 30 artefacts located on a small rise about one kilometre from Ginninderra Creek, and
- G12 – contained in excess of 150 artefacts, located on a slightly elevated terrace within 100 m of Ginninderra Creek.
- G21 contained approximately 50 artefacts located on a flat terrace approximately 150m from Halls Creek.

These locations have been assessed as having high potential for sub-surface cultural material. There are mapped in the attached impact assessment briefing note (**Attachment I**, Section 7, Figure 5 - this figure has been redacted for public consultation due to the presence of culturally sensitive information). Further, seven 'Potential Archaeological Deposits' (PADs) have been identified within the Proposed Action Area, four of which were rated as having high archaeological potential. The AARD prepared for the Proposed Action Area includes a methodology for an archaeological test excavation program (**Attachment C**, Aboriginal Archaeological Research Design, Section 3, pages 15-21). Implementation of the AARD will be a requirement of the EMP.

Attachments B & C and Attachment I Figures will not be made publicly available due to cultural sensitivity reasons.

## 3.4 Hydrology

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

The Proposed Action Area drains into Ginninderra Creek at the southern-eastern boundary of the property. It has a larger developed catchment upstream of this location, with a number of water bodies previously built during urban development to regulate flow. A degraded drainage line runs through the east of the Proposed Action Area, flowing to Ginninderra Creek, containing some flows from the suburb of Spence. This flow is conveyed through an existing farm dam to a flatter floodplain, before flowing out to Ginninderra Creek.

Meanwhile the western portion of the Proposed Action Area is bisected by Halls Creek which drains into Gooromon Ponds. The Proposed Action Area contains one drainage line and large irrigation dam in the east and a small dam, Halls Pond, as well as two creek lines draining into Halls Creek in the west.

## 4. Impacts and mitigation

## 4.1 Impact details

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

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	No	Yes
S15B	National Heritage	No	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	No	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	Yes	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	No	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	Yes	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	Yes	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 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 National Heritage places in the Proposed Action Area. Four National Heritage places are within the 10 km Protected Matters Search for the Proposed Action area:

- Australian Academy of Science Building
- Australian War Memorial and the Memorial Parade
- High Court – National Gallery Precinct
- Old Parliament House and Curtilage

Given the topography, existing surrounds and distance to these National Heritage places, it is not expected that the Proposed Action will have result in any direct or indirect impacts.

### 4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

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

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

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

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ramsar wetland
No	No	Banrock Station Wetland Complex
No	No	Hattah-Kulkyne Lakes
No	No	Riverland
No	No	The Coorong, and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Wetland

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

No

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

\*

The nearest Ramsar Wetland is 500-600 km downstream from the Proposed Action Area. As discussed in the hydrology section, no direct or indirect impacts would occur as a result of the Proposed Action.

### 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>Ammobium craspedioides</i>	Yass Daisy
No	No	<i>Amphibromus fluitans</i>	River Swamp Wallaby-grass, Floating Swamp Wallaby-grass
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
No	No	<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo
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>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
Yes		<i>Keyacris scurra</i>	Key's Matchstick Grasshopper
No	No	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot
No	No	<i>Lepidium aschersonii</i>	Spiny Peppercress



Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Lepidium hyssopifolium</i>	Basalt Pepper-cress, Peppercress, Rubble Pepper-cress, Pepperweed
No	No	<i>Leucochrysum albicans</i> subsp. <i>tricolor</i>	Hoary Sunray, Grassland Paper-daisy
Yes		<i>Litoria booroolongensis</i>	Booroolong 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>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
No	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>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
No	No	<i>Swainsona recta</i>	Small Purple-pea, Mountain Swainson-pea, Small Purple Pea
No	No	<i>Synemon plana</i>	Golden Sun Moth
No	No	<i>Thesium australe</i>	Austral Toadflax, Toadflax

## Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
No	No	Natural Temperate Grassland of the South Eastern Highlands

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
No	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 Proposed Action area contains a number of MNES, and may have an indirect, but not significant, impact to a small area:

White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (Box Gum Woodland)

Box-gum woodland has been recorded in the Proposed Action Area during targeted surveys (**Attachment D** Section 4.2.3, page 46, **Attachment E** Section 4.1.1, Page 20, **Attachment F** Section 6.3, Page 14. A total of 122.44 ha of box-gum woodland meeting the EPBC Act listing criteria has been identified within the Proposed Action Area.

As an indirect impact of the Proposed Action, it is anticipated that the construction of an access road into the Proposed Action Area will likely result in the loss of approximately 1.43 ha of box gum woodland. This impacted area is situated towards the western boundary of the Proposed Action Area and has been excluded from the Conservation Areas. It consists of low quality derived native grassland associated with the CEEC. The purpose of this access road is to provide safe access from Copland Drive into the Proposed Action Area. Through extensive evaluation, the proposed access route is considered to be the only viable option for the Proposed Action Area as it will provide a safe, regulated, and consolidated vehicular and active travel access point suitably offset from residences.

All other box-gum woodland will be retained and protected through the designated Conservation Areas and associated 30 m to 50 m Interface Zones established adjacent to the Conservation Areas. Any future impacts will be managed through implementation of an EMP guiding management of the Conservation Areas and Interface Zones. Refer to the attached Assessments of Significance (**Attachment I** Section 3, pages 9-13).

Striped Legless Lizard

Striped legless lizard has been confirmed present in the Proposed Action Area during targeted surveys conducted in 2014 (**Attachment E**, Section 4, Page 24) and 2017 (**Attachment H** pages 7-10). A total of 9.61 ha of suitable habitat for the species was identified within the Proposed Action Area.

All habitat for striped legless lizard will be protected through the designated Conservation Areas and associated management Interface Zones established outside the Conservation Areas. Management Interface Zones have been established at 50 m outside of all identified striped legless lizard habitat consistent with the relevant Commonwealth guidelines, unless constrained by access road requirements. No direct impacts will occur, and indirect impacts will be managed through the EMP, which will provide management obligations for the Conservation Areas and Interface Zones. No significant impact to the striped legless lizard is expected as a result of the Proposed Action. Refer to the attached Assessments of Significance (**Attachment I**, Section 3 Pages 40-47).

#### Golden Sun Moth

Golden sun moth has been confirmed present in the Proposed Action Area during targeted surveys conducted in 2014 (**Attachment E**, Section 4.2.2, Page 24) and 2017 (**Attachment H** Pages 11-12). A total of 41.35 ha of suitable habitat was identified within the Proposed Action Area.

All habitat for golden sun moth will be protected through the designated Conservation Areas and associated Interface Zones established outside the Conservation Areas. Interface Zones have been established at 30 m to 50 m outside the Conservation Areas unless constrained by access road requirements. No direct impacts will occur, and indirect impacts will be managed through the proposed EMP, which will provide management obligations for the Conservation Areas and Interface Zones. No significant impact to the golden sun moth is expected as a result of the Proposed Action. Refer to the attached Assessments of Significance (**Attachment I** Section 3, Pages 40-47).

#### Superb Parrot

Superb parrot has been observed within the Proposed Action Area during surveys undertaken in 2023 (**Attachment D** Ginninderra West Ecological Assessment Section 4.4, page 57). While breeding is not known to occur within the Proposed Action Area, the site does contain foraging habitat and the species was observed flying over and foraging in grass.

All high value woodland habitat for woodland birds would be protected in the designated Conservation Areas. The EMP will seek to protect the majority of scattered remnant woodland trees and mature woodland plantings within the development area. The Proposed Action will ensure that maintenance of habitat trees and woodland areas to accommodate the species, including hollow bearing trees. The protection of hollow bearing trees will be regulated through ACT legislation when the Purchaser applies for approval for development. The Proposed Action is considered unlikely to result in a significant impact. Refer to the attached Assessments of Significance (**Attachment I** Section 3, Pages 40-47).

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

\*

No

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

There are no direct impacts proposed for striped legless lizard, golden sun moth or superb parrot.

As previously described, some minor indirect impacts to box gum woodland are anticipated as a result of the Proposed Action. Having regard to the low quality of this impacted area and the management and restoration measures proposed, it is considered unlikely that this impact would constitute a significant impact to the ecological community within the Proposed Action Area. Refer to the attached Assessments of Significance (**Attachment I** Section 3, pages 9-50).

The Proposed Action is unlikely to:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population;
- reduce the area of occupancy of the species;
- fragment an existing population into two or more populations;
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species;
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population;
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline;
- result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat;

- introduce disease that may cause the species to decline; or interfere with the recovery of the species.

**4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? \***

No

**4.1.4.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action.**

\*

The Proposed Action, being the divestment of the rural blocks by CSIRO, is unlikely to have a significant impact to MNES and therefore is unlikely to be determined to be a controlled action for the purposes of listed threatened species and communities.

**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. \***

CSIRO's intention is that the Sale Contract(s) for the divestment of the Proposed Action Area will provide that no urban development is to be carried out in the designated Conservation Areas and will include environmental management obligations as set out in an EMP. CSIRO will continue to maintain the Conservation Areas pending divestment and transfer of the relevant tranche of property to the Purchaser. Once the Purchaser takes full control over the relevant portion of the Proposed Action Area (following the settlement of the relevant Sale Contract), responsibility for the Conservation Areas and implementation of the EMP (and subsequent CMP), will be transferred to the Purchaser. The EMP will include a number of avoidance, mitigation, and management measures. Most notably, this will include the interim management of the Proposed Action Area by CSIRO until divestment of each tranche of property is completed. The Purchaser will then manage the relevant portion of the Proposed Action Area under the EMP, until the CMP and CEMP are prepared to ensure ongoing management of conservation values.

While it is noted that a CEMP is a general requirement for all development in the ACT, the EMP will require the below management principles relating to the development and Interface Zones to be appropriately incorporated into the CEMP. The EMP will also require that the CEMP be reviewed by CSIRO to ensure that it demonstrates sufficient rigour in its management approach.

The EMP will be prepared to meet the specific requirements for each of the Conservation Areas, the Interface Zones, and development areas, regarding avoiding and minimising impacts on MNES.

The Conservation Areas have been defined to achieve the following outcomes for MNES and NC Act listed species:

- Protection of 121.01 ha of the box gum woodland CEEC.
- No direct impacts to striped legless lizard habitat.
- No direct impacts to golden sun moth habitat.
- No significant impacts to any MNES.
- Management and monitoring requirements for the Conservation Areas will be specified in the CMP.

The CMP will clearly specify the following:

- No urban development is to be undertaken within the Conservation Areas. Ecological restoration, minor infrastructure or management works such as the establishment of formal access routes to manage access may occur within Conservation Areas.
- No urban development is to be undertaken within the Interface Zones. Asset protection, edge roads, service/utility installation and landscaping may occur within this area.
- Management responsibility is to be clearly defined, during land divestment transition period and for the long term.
- Management of the Conservation Areas will aim to maintain and enhance ecological condition, taking into account specific requirements of MNES present.
- Zone-based definition of management requirements to ensure conditions suitable for MNES are maintained, taking into account overlapping MNES and potentially contrasting requirements.
- The inner asset protection zone (30 m from the house edges) must not extend into the Conservation Areas. The outer asset protection zone may extend into the Conservation Areas where this is consistent with management objectives.

A monitoring method, schedule and management thresholds triggering management review must be prepared consistent with ACT Government Conservation Effectiveness Monitoring Program.

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

No offsets proposed. No direct impacts are expected as a result of the Proposed Action and indirect impacts will be effectively mitigated through the measures described in this referral.

If, as an outcome of future development plans with respect to the Proposed Action Area, it is determined that a net ecological benefit can still be achieved by consolidating or rationalising proposed Conservation Areas in that part of the Proposed Action Area referred to as 'Ginninderra West', or otherwise if all impacts to MNES in Ginninderra West cannot be avoided, a new EPBC Act Referral may be submitted (either by CSIRO or the Purchaser).

### **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>Monarcha melanopsis</i>	Black-faced Monarch
No	No	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Yellow Wagtail
No	No	<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	Satin Flycatcher
No	No	<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	Rufous Fantail

**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.**

\*

Due to the lack of wetland and coastal habitat within the Proposed Action Area, migratory birds are unlikely to utilise the Proposed Action Area regularly. Latham's Snipe, a listed migratory bird under the EPBC Act, has been observed within the Proposed Action Area, utilising the area surrounding Hall's Pond. The Proposed Action will be undertaken in a manner that protects the relevant habitat, in particular Hall's Pond, through inclusion of Hall's Pond in the Conservation Areas.

## **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 in or near a Commonwealth marine area.

#### **4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef**

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

No

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

The Proposed Action area is over 1300 km from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

#### **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 a large coal mining development, or related to coal seam gas, and will not involve any mining activities.



#### 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.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Commonwealth land area
Yes	Yes	Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation

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

Yes

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

**Attachment I** (ref pages 54-60) considers impacts of the proposed action on the whole of the environment, as defined by SIG 1.2. Potential impacts to the whole of the environment are linked to vegetation removal, changes to hydrology, and erosion and sedimentation as a result of any future development of the Project Area following divestment (not as a result of divestment itself).

The Proposed Action Area is currently National Land. The Proposed Action would establish 219.57 ha of Conservation Areas to be managed through the implementation of an EMP, and subsequently by a CMP in perpetuity. This would be a beneficial impact as the areas would support habitat for threatened species and ecological communities.

##### 4.1.10.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? \*

No

##### 4.1.10.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. \*

As per the assessment of significance in **Attachment I** (ref pages 54-60), a number of mitigation measures are proposed to minimise impacts to the whole of environment, following the divestment of the site (the current action). These include designation of conservation areas, an EMP and ongoing oversight.

The Proposed Action would result in Conservation Areas where higher value vegetation will be conserved. The Proposed Action will not involve the use of any chemicals or hazardous material, or controlled burning which could have an additional impact on native vegetation.

The Proposed Action would not result in the clearing of any important habitat for threatened species, and threatened species habitat will be protected through conservation methods outlined in the EMP.

The Proposed Action area does not contain any Commonwealth heritage sites, and heritage areas will be protected through the EMP and CEMP post divestment.

**4.1.10.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? \***

No

**4.1.10.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action. \***

The Proposed Action is considered unlikely to result in any significant adverse impacts on the environment in Commonwealth land. As such, the Proposed Action is not considered to be a controlled action.

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

The Proposed Action would involve the designation of Conservation Areas and adjacent Interface Zones which would establish protection zones for Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) and threatened species habitat. An EMP has been prepared and will be implemented by CSIRO for the management of the Proposed Action area during the interim period prior to divestment and transfer of control of the land to the Purchaser. The EMP will require long-term adherence to outcomes-based principles for the Proposed Action Area.

The EMP also specifies the requirement for the Purchaser to prepare a CEMP and CMP for the ongoing management of the development areas and Interface Zones, and Conservation Areas within the Proposed Action Area.

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

No offset is proposed. No direct or indirect significant impacts are expected as a result of the Proposed Action.

**4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas**

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

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

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

—

**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 therefore 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? \*

Yes

### 4.1.12.2 Briefly describe the nature and extent of the likely impact on the whole of the environment. \*

The Proposed Action is unlikely have a significant impact on the whole of the environment, as is required to be considered under Section 28 of the EPBC Act. **Attachment I** (Section 4, page 54) contains an assessment of significance for the whole of environment and is summarised below.

Potential impacts to the 'whole of the environment' as a result of the Proposed Action are linked to vegetation removal, changes to hydrology, and erosion and sedimentation as a result of any future development of the Proposed Action Area following divestment. To mitigate and manage these potential impacts, the following will occur:

- Designation of the Conservation Areas and Interface Zones, prior to divestment based on numerous ecological investigations referenced to in this Referral.
- An EMP will be prepared and implemented by CSIRO for the management of the Proposed Action Area during the interim period prior to divestment. The EMP will require the interim management of designated Conservations Areas and the establishment of Interface Zones to ensure the protection of ecological and heritage values within the Proposed Action Area. The EMP will also require the long-term adherence to outcomes-based principles for the Proposed Action Area.
- The EMP will specify the requirement for the Purchaser to prepare a CEMP and CMP for the ongoing management of the respective zones within the Proposed Action Area. Adherence to the EMP will be a condition of the Sale Contract for the Purchaser.
- The EMP will allow for CSIRO to review the rigour of the CEMP and CMP prior to its implementation. This is to ensure that the principles outlined within the EMP are sufficiently incorporated and that impacts during construction will be effectively managed.

1. In addition, some minor remediation works are likely to be required prior to divestment. In particular, asbestos pipework and other contaminants will be removed at the entrance of the Proposed Action Area, and along a main access track to the north-west. These works will be managed by a remediation plan and will not have any impact on ecological or heritage values within the Proposed Action Area. All hazardous material will be appropriately disposed of in accordance with relevant legislation and guidelines.

Through the application of these avoidance, mitigation, and management measures, it is considered unlikely that the Proposed Action will result in a significant impact to any aspect or the whole of the environment.

## 4.2 Impact summary

### Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

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

*None*

### Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

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

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

## 4.3 Alternatives

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

No

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

The Proposed Action Area is now surplus to the needs of CSIRO, and hence a divestment has been considered the most appropriate course of action. A 'no action' alternative is not considered to be in the interest of the commonwealth.

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# 5. Lodgement

## 5.1 Attachments

### 1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att A_ Indicative EMP Outline.pdf Indicative Environmental Management Plan Outline	12/02/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att B_ Heritage Management Plan-compressed (1).pdf Heritage Management Plan for the Action Area	13/10/2016	Yes	High
#3.	Document	Att C_Aboriginal Archaeological Research Design.pdf Aboriginal Archaeological Research Design (AARD) for initial archaeological testing at the CSIRO Ginninderra site in the ACT	22/02/2016	Yes	High
#4.	Document	Att I_Briefing Note - Redacted Version.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	28/10/2024		High
#5.	Document	Att I_Briefing Note r1.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	04/07/2024	No	High

### 1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B_ Heritage Management Plan.pdf Heritage Management Plan for the Action Area	13/10/2016	Yes	High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att J - CSIRO Health, Safety and Environment policy.pdf Policy outlining CSIRO's commitments to health, safety and the environment.	01/08/2024	No	High

1.3.2.18 (Person proposing to take the action) If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att J - CSIRO Health, Safety and Environment policy.pdf Policy outlining CSIRO's commitments to health, safety and the environment.	31/07/2024	No	High

### 3.1.1 Current condition of the project area's environment

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att D_Ginninderra West Ecological Assessment.pdf targeted surveys and assessments of the ecological values present within the western portion of Ginninderra Experiment Station	14/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att E_ Ecological Values of CSIRO GES.pdf ECOLOGICAL VALUES OF CSIRO GINNINDERRA RESEARCH STATION	31/08/2016	No	High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att I_Briefing Note - Redacted Version.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	28/10/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att I_Briefing Note r1.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	04/07/2024	Yes	High

### 3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att D_Ginninderra West Ecological Assessment.pdf targeted surveys and assessments of the ecological values present within the western portion of Ginninderra Experiment Station	14/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att E_ Ecological Values of CSIRO GES.pdf ECOLOGICAL VALUES OF CSIRO GINNINDERRA RESEARCH STATION	31/08/2016	No	High
#3.	Document	Att F_CSIRO Ginninderra -Stage 1 Ecological Report.pdf PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT CSIRO GINNINDERRA PROPERTY AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY	13/12/2018	No	High
#4.	Document	Att G_Ginninderra CSIRO Vegetation Assessment Report.pdf The aim of this report is to provide detailed information on the location and status of trees within the site referred to as Ginninderra CSIRO Research Station	14/10/2014	No	High
#5.	Document				

	Att I_Briefing Note - Redacted Version.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	28/10/2024	High	
#6.	Document Att I_Briefing Note r1.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	04/07/2024	Yes	High

### 3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B_Heritage Management Plan.pdf Heritage Management Plan for the Action Area	13/10/2016	Yes	High
#2.	Document	Att D_Ginninderra West Ecological Assessment.pdf targeted surveys and assessments of the ecological values present within the western portion of Ginninderra Experiment Station	14/03/2024		High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B_Heritage Management Plan.pdf Heritage Management Plan for the Action Area	13/10/2016	Yes	High

### 3.3.2 Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B_Heritage Management Plan.pdf Heritage Management Plan for the Action Area	13/10/2016	Yes	High
#2.	Document	Att C_Aboriginal Archaeological Research Design.pdf Aboriginal Archaeological Research Design (AARD) for initial archaeological testing at the CSIRO Ginninderra site in the ACT	21/02/2016	Yes	High
#3.	Document	Att I_Briefing Note - Redacted Version.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	29/10/2024	No	High
#4.	Document	Att I_Briefing Note r1.pdf Assessment of Significance briefing note	04/07/2024	Yes	High

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

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att D_Ginninderra West Ecological Assessment.pdf targeted surveys and assessments of the ecological values present within the western portion of Ginninderra Experiment Station	14/03/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att E_Ecological Values of CSIRO GES.pdf ECOLOGICAL VALUES OF CSIRO GINNINDERRA RESEARCH STATION	31/08/2016	No	High





Representative's name	Tessa Cox
Representative's job title	Project Officer - Capital Works
Phone	0436950413
Email	tessa.cox@csiro.au
Address	CSIRO, 36 Bradfield rd, West Lindfield NSW 2070

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

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. \*

☒ By checking this box, I, **Tessa Cox of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. \*

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. \*

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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.

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Same as Referring party information.

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

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. \*

☒ I, **Tessa Cox of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. \*

☒ I, **Tessa Cox of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)**, the Person proposing the action, consent to the designation of **Tessa Cox of**

**Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)** as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. \*

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. \*

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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.

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Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

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

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. \*

☒ I, **Tessa Cox of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. \*

☒ I would like to receive notifications and track the referral progress through the EPBC portal. \*