



Correction Notification

Variation of conditions attached to approval, Development of new natural gas acreage in Surat Basin, Queensland (EPBC 2013/7047)

The variation notice signed on 3 March 2025 contained formatting errors in condition 25A.

Condition 25A should read:

25A. As part of a staged process of adaptive management of CSG development, the approval holder must implement the following in relation to CSG development induced subsidence:

- a) baseline and ongoing geodetic monitoring programs to quantify deformation at the land surface within the approval holder's tenures. This should link from the tenement scale to the wider region across which groundwater extraction activities are occurring and any relevant regional program of monitoring.
- b) a program to monitor subsidence **impacts** from the action. This program is to follow the framework established by the Queensland Government (**OGIA**) including triggers, thresholds, management and mitigation actions.
- c) measures for linking surface and sub-surface deformation arising from CSG activities.

if, at any time during the period for which this approval has effect, an **impact** or potential **impact** occurring within the approval holder's **project area** is, or has been, identified as a moderate or high risk in the most recent **OGIA** Subsidence Impact Report, the approval holder must notify the **Department** within 20 **business days** of the **impact** or potential **impact** being identified.

A corrected version of the notice is at Annexure 1.

Annexure 1

Variation of conditions attached to approval

Development of new natural gas acreage in Surat Basin, Queensland (EPBC 2013/7047)

This decision to vary conditions of approval is made under section 143 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).


Approved action

approval holder	QGC Pty Limited ACN: 089642553
approved action	To develop, operate and decommission a coal seam gas field and associated infrastructure approximately 20 kilometres west of Wandoan, Queensland referred under the EPBC Act on 1 November 2013 and as described in the final Preliminary Documentation received on 22 September 2014. See EPBC Act referral 2013/7047

Variation

variation of conditions attached to approval	The variation is to: Amend condition 9 to update administrative items. Amend condition 23e), 25 and 27 (notes), revoke condition 26 and insert new condition 27A to update CSG Water Monitoring and Management Plan and subsidence reporting requirements. Amend definitions table as required.
date of effect	This variation has effect on the date this instrument is signed.

Person authorised to make decision

name and position	Rachel Short Branch Head Environment Assessments (Vic and Tas) and Post Approvals Branch
signature	
date of decision	3 March 2025

Date of decision	Conditions attached to approval
17 Dec 2014	1) The Minister may determine that a plan , strategy or program approved by the Queensland Government satisfies a plan , strategy or program required under these conditions.
Project area	
17 Dec 2014	2) For the purpose of the action, the approval holder must not take any action outside the project area .
Disturbance limits	
11 Jul 2018	3) Revoked
17 Dec 2014	4) The approval holder must not exceed the maximum disturbance limits in Table 1.

Table 1: Whole of project maximum disturbance limits

Threatened Fauna Species	Maximum disturbance (hectares) to core habitat known and core habitat potential
South-eastern Long-eared Bat (<i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i>)	105.9
Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory)	71.7
Yakka Skink (<i>Egernia rugosa</i>)	59.3
Threatened Flora Species	Maximum disturbance (hectares)
Belson's Panic Grass (<i>Homopholis belsonii</i>)	47.5
Ooline (<i>Cadellia pentastylis</i>)	4
Threatened Ecological Communities	Maximum disturbance (hectares)
Brigalow (<i>Acacia harpophylla</i> dominant and co dominant)	15
Semi-evergreen vine thickets of the Brigalow Belt (North and South) and Nandewar Bioregions	4
Coolibah - Black Box Woodlands of the Darling Riverine Plains and the Brigalow Belt South Bioregions	2

Pre-clearance surveys	
17 Dec 2014	5) The approval holder must undertake pre-clearance surveys of proposed disturbance areas.
17 Dec 2014	6) Pre-clearance surveys must be supervised by a suitably qualified person and undertaken in accordance with the Department's survey guidelines in effect at the time of the survey or other survey methodology endorsed by the Department in writing.
17 Dec 2014	7) All pre-clearance survey reports must be published on the approval holder's website within one month of completion and at least 20 business days prior to the clearing of vegetation which is the subject of a pre-clearance survey , and remain published on the website for the life of the project.

Matters of National Environmental Significance Impact Management Plans	
31 Oct 2017	8) The approval holder must manage impacts to EPBC Act listed threatened species and communities that are known or likely to occur in the project area in accordance with the Significant Species Management Plans (SSMP)
On the date this variation is approved	9) Where EPBC Act listed threatened species or EPBC Act listed ecological communities which do not have a SSMP are identified in the development area, the approval holder must develop a SSMP and submit within 3 months of identifying these MNES , a copy of the SSMP to the Minister for written approval. The SSMP approved by the Minister must be implemented.
31 Oct 2017	10) The approval holder must manage impacts to EPBC Act listed threatened species and communities from pest and weed species in accordance with the Pest and Weed Management Plan .
31 Oct 2017	11) The approval holder must implement the Remediation, Rehabilitation and Recovery Monitoring Plan .
Variation dated 31 October 2017	12) The approval holder must implement the Constraints Planning and Field Development Protocol .

Revised MNES Impact Management Plans	
17 Dec 2014	13) The approval holder must submit, within 14 months of commencement , Revised MNES Impact Management Plans for the written approval of the Minister . The Revised MNES Impact Management Plans must include:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the results of pre-clearance surveys for all areas proposed to be impacted, subject to the approval holder being granted appropriate land access to undertake the surveys; b) any changes in whole of project maximum disturbance limits in Table 1 as a result of these pre-clearance survey results; and c) revisions of the Pest and Weed Management Plan, Remediation, Rehabilitation and Recovery Monitoring Plan and the Constraints Planning and Field Development Protocol and any other plans altered to take account of new information.
17 Dec 2014	<p>14) The approval holder must implement the approved Revised MNES Impact Management Plans.</p> <p>Note 1: Where Land access is not granted, in sufficient time for pre-clearance surveys to inform the Revised MNES Impact Management Plans required within 14 months of commencement, the approval holder may use an alternate methodology such as Geographic Information System analysis of satellite imagery to assess potentially impacted areas for the purposes of these plans.</p>
17 Dec 2014	<p>15) The approval holder must review the approved Revised MNES Impact Management Plans at least once each five years. If the MNES Impact Management Plans require updating to reflect any new information, including from pre-clearance surveys or management practice, the approval holder must submit the updated plan(s) to the Minister within two months of revision, requesting written approval.</p>
Offsets	
17 Dec 2014	<p>16) The approval holder must ensure that the environmental offsets comply with the principles of the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy.</p>
17 Dec 2014	<p>17) To compensate for authorised unavoidable significant residual impacts on Matters of National Environmental Significance, the approval holder must, within 14 months of commencement, prepare and submit an Offset Management Plan to the Minister for written approval.</p>
17 Dec 2014	<p>18) The Offset Management Plan must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) details of the offset site(s) proposed for the residual significant impacts for each maximum disturbance limit in Table 1, including, for each proposed offset site, the location, tenure, site description, map of environmental values and shapefiles; b) the locations of EPBC listed threatened species habitat and communities in the proposed offset areas, including maps in electronic Geographic Information System (GIS) format;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) detailed description of the quality, condition, site context and environmental values of the offset site(s) and include details of connectivity of the offset area with relevant habitats and biodiversity corridors outside the proposed offset areas; d) details of the management measures that will be implemented for the protection of EPBC Act listed threatened species and EPBC Act listed ecological communities, including a table setting out how the measures proposed have regard to, and are consistent with, the measures in relevant conservation advice, recovery plans and threat abatement plans; e) details of how offset sites have been, or will be, legally secured and the proposed legal mechanism(s) for securing the offset within the required timeframe specified at Condition 20; f) a monitoring program for the proposed offset site(s) suitable to measure the success of the management measures against stated performance criteria including monitoring locations, parameters and timing; g) a description of the potential risks to the successful implementation of the Offset Management Plan, and details of contingency measures that will be implemented to mitigate these risks; and h) a detailed proposal to offset any significant residual impacts on any EPBC Act listed threatened species and EPBC Act listed ecological communities not identified in Table 1.
17 Dec 2014	19) The approval holder must not convey outside the project area gas derived from the action unless the Minister has approved the Offset Management Plan. The approval holder must implement the approved Offset Management Plan.
28 Aug 2017	20) The approval holder must legally secure the offset areas proposed in the Offset Management Plan approved by the Minister within 36 months of commencement .
17 Dec 2014	21) The approval holder must, within 50 months of commencement , submit a Revised Offset Management Plan to the Minister for written approval. The Revised Offset Management Plan must constitute a revision of the approved Offset Management Plan, taking account of all new information including the results of all pre-clearance surveys . If the residual impact of the project on any MNES is greater than that predicted in the approved Offset Management Plan, the approval holder must propose in the Revised Offset Management Plan an offset or offsets for the additional residual impact. The approval holder must implement the approved Revised Offset Management Plan.

17 Dec 2014

22) The approval holder must **legally secure** the offset areas proposed in the Revised Offset Management Plan approved by the **Minister** within 12 months from the date of the **Minister's** approval of this **plan**.

Note 2: Offsets for some species may be accommodated within ecological communities or overlap State approval requirements or other species habitat requirements, as long as they meet the requirements of these conditions of approval in respect of each individual species and community being offset.

Note 3: The **Minister** may determine that offsets approved by the Queensland Government may satisfy the requirements for offsetting **EPBC Act MNES** so long as any required offsets comply with the principles of the **EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy** or an equivalent Queensland Government offsets policy that ensures the maintenance and protection of **MNES**.

Coal Seam Gas (CSG) Water Management and Monitoring

11 Jan 2024

22A. For the protection of **water resources** and **EPBC-listed springs** as per controlling provisions within the **Surat CMA**, the approval holder must ensure that the outcomes and sub-outcome/s for **water resources** specified in the Table 2 below are achieved and maintained:

Note 4: The approval holder is considered to have achieved and maintained an outcome for **water resources** within the **Surat CMA** when it has achieved and maintained the corresponding sub-outcome/s for **water resources**.

Table 2. Outcomes and risk thresholds

	Controllin g provision	Sections 18 and 18A EPBC Act	Sections 24D and 24E EPBC Act			
	MNES or associate d user of MNES	EPBC- listed springs	Water supply bores	Aquati c GDEs	Terrestrial GDEs	Subterranean GDEs
Outcome		Groundwater impacts due to CSG development must have no impact on the EPBC-listed springs. No impact is achieved by maintaining or enhancing	Conditions within unconsolidated and consolidated hydrogeological units, including water level/pressure and water quality, maintain or improve ecosystem services and access by associated users			

		groundwater discharge and environmental values at EPBC-listed springs				
	Sub-outcome	None	Water supply bore continues to supply water for its intended purpose, or is made good	No adverse effects on the function and environmental values due to CSG development		No adverse effects to ensure habitat is maintained or improved
	Applicable Queensland legislative instrument	Chapter 3, Queensland Water Act UWIR	Chapter 3, Queensland Water Act UWIR <i>Planning Act 2016</i> (Qld)	Chapter 3, Queensland Water Act UWIR	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> (EP Act) UWIR	EP Act
	Risk threshold (OGIA model drawdown prediction)	Over 0.2m	Over 5m in a consolidated aquifer Over 2m in an unconsolidated aquifer	Over 0.2m in outcropping formation	Over 0.2m	Over 2m for unconfined hydrogeological units Dewatering* of aquifer habitat for confined hydrogeological units * model prediction at any point in time where aquifer pressure in confined units is reduced to the top of the hydrostratigraphic unit, after which point dewatering occurs.

11 Jan 2024

22B. To ensure the outcomes in Condition 22A are achieved and maintained, the approval holder must manage **impacts** on **water resources** and **EPBC-listed springs** in accordance with the **relevant risk management framework/s**.

11 Jan 2024

22C. If, at any time during the period for which this approval has effect, an impact/s potentially occurring within the approval holder's **project area** is, or has been, identified as a **high risk** or **very high risk impact** in accordance with

	the relevant risk management framework/s , the approval holder must notify the department within 20 business days .
11 Jan 2024	<p>22D. If a high risk or very high risk impact is identified under Condition 22A before the UWIR 2021 is replaced with an updated UWIR, the approval holder must submit the information required under Condition 22E within 3 months (or a timeframe otherwise agreed to by the Minister in writing) of notifying the department of the high risk or very high risk impact.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>22E. Within 9 months (or a timeframe otherwise agreed to by the Minister in writing) of notifying the Department of the very high risk or high risk impact, the approval holder must provide for the written approval of the Minister:</p> <p>description and location of impact/s and associated users;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) performance criteria; b) trigger values; c) limits; and d) the contributing well/s, including identification number, GPS coordinates and shapefiles. <p>Or provide a statement as to why the provision of performance criteria, trigger values, limits and contributing well/s is not necessary for the written agreement of the Minister.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>22F. If the statement provided under Condition 22E is not agreed to by the Minister in writing, the approval holder must provide the description and location of impact/s and associated users, performance criteria, trigger values, limits and contributing well/s for the written approval of the Minister within a timeframe specified by the Minister in writing.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>22G. A description and location of impact/s and associated users, performance criteria, trigger values, limits and contributing well/s, or statement provided under Condition 22E, must be submitted to the Minister with an accompanying site-specific assessment prepared by a suitably qualified water resources expert and accompanied by a peer review undertaken by an independent suitably qualified water resources expert.</p> <p>Note 5: The approval holder may submit a SIMS mitigation plan as its site-specific assessment for EPBC-listed springs and aquatic GDEs provided that it meets the requirements of the site-specific assessment. Where a SIMS mitigation plan is determined by the Minister in writing to meet the requirements of the, site-specific assessment, the SIMS mitigation plan is taken to be peer reviewed and therefore does not need to be accompanied by a site-specific assessment prepared by a suitably qualified water resources expert.</p>

11 Jan 2024	<p data-bbox="408 210 1396 405">22H. If the information specified in Conditions 22E.a) to 22E.e) has not been approved by the Minister in writing within 6 months of being provided to the Minister, the approval holder must undertake impact management in accordance with any interim performance criteria, trigger values and limits set by the Minister in writing.</p> <p data-bbox="464 434 1396 629">Note 6: The approval holder will only be required to undertake impact management in accordance with interim performance criteria, trigger values and limits where the Minister is not satisfied that the information specified in Conditions 22E. a) to 22E. e) will ensure the outcome/s specified under Condition 22A will be, or is likely to be, achieved.</p> <p data-bbox="464 658 1396 891">Note 7: The Minister, in determining whether to direct the approval holder to undertake impact management in accordance with interim performance criteria, trigger values and limits, will consider all relevant information including but not limited to legislation and policy, information provided by the approval holder under Condition 22E and Condition 22G, and any other relevant information available to the Minister at the time of the decision.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p data-bbox="408 934 1396 1088">22I. The approval holder must undertake impact management in accordance with the interim performance criteria, trigger values and limits until the performance criteria, trigger values and limits required under Condition 22E are approved by the Minister in writing.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p data-bbox="408 1131 1396 1245">22J. The approval holder must submit an Outcomes Assurance Statement for each high risk or very high risk impact to the Minister for each 12 month period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="464 1274 1396 1379">a) following the date of approval of the description and location of impact/s and associated users, performance criteria, trigger values and limits; or <li data-bbox="464 1408 1396 1514">b) following the date the Minister notified the approval holder in writing that interim performance criteria, trigger values and limits had been set; or <li data-bbox="464 1543 1396 1572">c) following the date otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister. <p data-bbox="464 1601 1396 1666">The Outcomes Assurance Statement must be submitted in accordance with reporting requirements specified in the JIF.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p data-bbox="408 1695 1396 1850">22K. The approval holder must provide any additional information requested by the Minister in writing, within a timeframe specified by the Minister in writing, to substantiate an Outcomes Assurance Statement and/or to verify the risk of not achieving the outcome/s specified in Condition 22A.</p> <p data-bbox="464 1879 1396 2024">Note 8: The Minister may throughout the life of this approval seek advice from experts, or an expert panel. As a consequence, specific matters identified through such advice may need to be addressed in the site-specific assessment or any Outcomes Assurance Statement. Where such advice is</p>

	<p>sought, the approval holder will be provided with the opportunity to submit information and respond to the specific matters identified, in order to ensure Outcomes Assurance Statements are based on the best available information. Review requirements will facilitate adaptive management, align with Queensland Government approval requirements, and account for potential cumulative impacts as new scientific information becomes available over the life of this approval.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>22L. If the Minister believes on the basis of the Outcomes Assurance Statement, any information provided under Condition 22M and any other relevant information that the outcomes in Condition 22A are not likely to be achieved, the Minister may notify the approval holder in writing specifying the areas requiring improvement or additional information.</p> <p>If notified, the approval holder must develop and implement adaptive management responses to address the specified areas and provide a written report to the Minister within [3] months of the notification setting out the responses and their effectiveness.</p> <p>Note 9: If there is an exceedance of a limit, Condition 22N requires this to be reported to the Minister and Condition 22O requires the approval holder to cease groundwater extraction within 10 business days of that notification.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>22M. If the approval holder detects that an approved or interim trigger value has been exceeded, the approval holder must implement an appropriate management response to ensure approved or interim limits are not exceeded.</p> <p>The approval holder must report this exceedance, and the contributing well/s, to the department within 10 business days of the detection.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>22N. If the approval holder detects that a limit has been exceeded, the approval holder must report this and the contributing well/s to the department within 10 business days of the detection.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>22O. Unless otherwise notified by the Minister in writing, the approval holder must cease groundwater extraction associated with the contributing well/s identified in Condition 22N within 10 business days of an exceedance of a limit being reported to the department, or of receiving notification that the Minister has determined that the outcome/s specified under Condition 22A have not been achieved.</p> <p>Note 10: The Minister, in determining whether to give notice to the approval holder that it is not required to cease groundwater extraction, will consider all relevant information including but not limited to legislation and policy, information provided by the approval holder (including any submissions made by the approval holder on alternative corrective actions that it</p>

	proposes to take) and any other information available to the Minister at the time of the decision.
11 Jan 2024	<p>22P. If the approval holder has been required to cease groundwater extraction pursuant to Condition 22O, the approval holder must urgently implement corrective actions to reduce performance criteria below approved or interim limits and trigger values.</p> <p>The approval holder must not recommence groundwater extraction until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the impact has been reversed; or b) the Minister has agreed, in writing, that the outcome/s specified in Condition 22A has been achieved; and c) written approval to recommence groundwater extraction has been given by the Minister <p>Note 11: Approval to recommence groundwater extraction may be subject to conditions that the Minister considers reasonable.</p>

CSG Water Monitoring and Management Plan

17 Dec 2014	23) The approval holder must submit a Coal Seam Gas Water Monitoring and Management Plan (CSG WMMP) at least two months prior to the extraction of water or coal seam gas, for the written approval of the Minister who may seek the advice of an expert panel . The CSG WMMP must contain:
11 Jan 2024	a) parameters and a sampling regime to establish baseline data for surface and groundwater resources that may be impacted by the action, including: surface water quality and quantity in the project area , and upstream and downstream of potential impact areas.
11 Jan 2024	b) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	c) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	d) Revoked
On the date this variation is approved	e) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	f) provisions to make monitoring results publicly available within 6 months of their collection, and retained on the approval holder's website for the life of the project, to facilitate a greater understanding of cumulative impacts ;
11 Jan 2024	g) Revoked

11 Jan 2024	h) early warning indicators and trigger thresholds and their reference values derived from baseline data for each monitoring point, including investigation and/or mitigation activities for both the early warning indicators and trigger thresholds;
11 Jan 2024	i) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	ii) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	i) details of ongoing monitoring measures that:
	i) sets out the frequency of monitoring and rationale for the frequency;
	ii) includes continued collection of data for each monitoring site over the life of the project;
11 Jan 2024	iii) outlines the approach to be taken to analyse the results including the methods to determine trends to indicate potential impacts.
11 Jan 2024	iv) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	j) a risk based exceedance response plan that details the actions the approval holder will take and the timeframes in which those actions will be undertaken if, early warning indicators and trigger threshold values contained in the CSG WMMP are exceeded, or there are any emergency discharges; and
11 Jan 2024	k) provisions to make monitoring data available to the department and Queensland Government authorities (if requested) for inclusion in any cumulative impact assessment, regional water balance model, bioregional assessment or relevant research.
17 Dec 2014	24) The CSG WMMP may refer to relevant sections of the QGC Stage 3 Water Monitoring and Management Plan approved in accordance with EPBC Approval 2008/4398, provided that the above information required in Condition 23 has been met. To avoid doubt, if a condition of another approval, held by the approval holder, requires a Water Monitoring and Management Plan, the approval holder may submit a single document which satisfies the requirements of each approval.
On the date this variation is approved	25) By 20 December 2024, the approval holder must submit for the approval of the Minister a Revised Coal Seam Gas Water Monitoring and Management Plan for the project, which supersedes any other Coal Seam Gas Water Monitoring and Management Plan and which includes any information specified by condition 23 and:

CSG induced subsidence	
On the date this variation is approved	<p>25A. As part of a staged process of adaptive management of CSG development, the approval holder must implement the following in relation to CSG development induced subsidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) baseline and ongoing geodetic monitoring programs to quantify deformation at the land surface within the approval holder's tenures. This should link from the tenement scale to the wider region across which groundwater extraction activities are occurring and any relevant regional program of monitoring. b) a program to monitor subsidence impacts from the action. This program is to follow the framework established by the Queensland Government (OGIA) including triggers, thresholds, management and mitigation actions. c) measures for linking surface and sub-surface deformation arising from CSG activities. <p>if, at any time during the period for which this approval has effect, an impact or potential impact occurring within the approval holder's project area is, or has been, identified as a moderate or high risk in the most recent OGIA Subsidence Impact Report, the approval holder must notify the Department within 20 business days of the impact or potential impact being identified.</p>
On the date this variation is approved	<p>25B . The approval holder must submit to the Department copies of any monitoring data, documents or reports, including reports of measures required by State Government obligations under the CSG-Induced Subsidence Framework not subject to the requirements of condition 65d at the same time as having to submit such to the State regulator, or in a timeframe agreed to by the department in writing.</p>
On the date this variation is approved	<p>25C . Any subsidence monitoring program required by state regulators following an impact or potential impact being identified and notified under condition 65d must be submitted to the Minister for approval with a proposed implementation schedule. The approved program must be implemented in a timeframe specified by the Minister.</p>
On the date this variation is approved	<p>25D. The Minister may require the approval holder to submit, for written approval by the Minister, an additional program to that required by condition 67 should any impact or potential impacts to MNES be identified through a State CSG-Induced Subsidence Framework program.</p> <p>Any approved additional program must be implemented by the approval holder.</p>
On the date this variation is approved	<p>26) Revoked</p>

11 Jan 2024	27) The approval holder must not commence the extraction of water or coal seam gas until the CSG WMMP has been approved by the Minister in writing. The approved CSG WMMP must be implemented by the approval holder .
On the date this variation is approved	<p>27A. A reviewed and updated CSG WMMP must be submitted to the Minister for written approval within 90 business days of the updated Underground Water Impact Report (UWIR) for the Surat CMA coming into effect, or by a date agreed to by the Minister in writing, for the Minister's written approval.</p> <p>a) A reviewed and updated CSG WMMP must be submitted to the Minister for written approval where there is a change in the way in which the approval holder manages CSG Water under a current CSG WMMP, where the change may impact or have the potential to impact MNES, or if there is a requirement to update the plan due to a QLD State Government approval requirement.</p> <p>The approved CSG WMMP must be implemented for the relevant gas field area.</p>
Well Construction and Operation	
17 Dec 2014	28) The approval holder must ensure that gas wells are constructed, operated and decommissioned in accordance with best practice principles in the Queensland Code of Practice for Construction and Abandoning CSG wells .
17 Dec 2014	29) The Minister may direct in writing that the approval holder cease water or gas extraction and/or water discharge or use if an early warning indicator, trigger threshold or limit is exceeded, and if the Minister is not satisfied that the action proposed or taken by the approval holder will remedy the situation. The Minister may direct the approval holder to implement alternative action at the expense of the approval holder.
17 Dec 2014	30) If the Minister has directed in writing that the approval holder must cease water or gas extraction and/or water discharge or use pursuant to Condition 29, the approval holder must not recommence such activities until the Minister has given approval in writing for the recommencement of those activities. Approval to recommence activities may be subject to conditions that the Minister considers reasonable.
17 Dec 2014	31) If the OGIA model ceases to exist, then the approval holder must submit an alternate model to be used for the purpose of these conditions that replaces the OGIA model as referred to in these conditions. The alternate model must be approved by the Minister in writing.
General	

17 Dec 2014	32) Within 20 business days after the commencement of the action, the approval holder must advise the department in writing of the actual date of commencement .
11 Jan 2024	33) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	33A. The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records .
11 Jan 2024	<p>33B. If the department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the department within the timeframe specified in the request.</p> <p>Note 14: Compliance records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, and or used to verify compliance with the conditions. Summaries of the result of an audit may be published on the Department's website or through the general media.</p>
Submission and Publication of Plans	
11 Jan 2024	<p>33C. The approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) submit plans electronically to the department for approval by the Minister b) publish each plan on the website within 1 month of the date the plan is approved by the Minister or of the date a revised action management plan is submitted to the Minister or the Department, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister c) exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or provided to a member of the public d) keep plans published on the website until the end date of this approval.
11 Jan 2024	33D. The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under conditions of this approval, is prepared in accordance with the Department's Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data (2018) and submitted electronically to the Department in accordance with the requirements of the plan .
Annual compliance reporting	
11 Jan 2024	34) Within 60 business days of the preceding annual compliance reporting period, the approval holder must publish a report (the Annual Compliance Report) on its website describing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions (and the Protocol

required under condition 12) during the previous 12 months. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the **department** on the same date in which the **compliance report** is published. The approval holder must continue to publish the Annual Compliance Report each year until such time as agreed to in writing by the **Minister**. The approval holder must also provide in this report:

- a) a reconciliation of actual **impacts** against whole of project maximum disturbance limits for **EPBC Act listed threatened species and communities** listed in Table 1;
- b) the number and spatial distribution of boreholes where **hydraulic fracturing** is expected to occur and, detailed separately, has occurred; and
- c) details of constituent components of **hydraulic fracturing** agents used and any other reinjected fluid(s), their toxicity as individual substances and as total effluent toxicity and ecotoxicity.

Note 15: For the purpose of publication of information required under condition 34, the approval holder may, with the written approval of the **Minister**, redact any information that is subject to confidentiality restrictions imposed on the approval holder by a third party. However, the approval holder must provide an unredacted version of the report to the **Minister** with the request regarding redaction.

Note 16: The annual compliance reporting period is the period between 22 October and 21 October on any two given subsequent years.

11 Jan 2024

34A. The approval holder must:

- a) notify the **department** by email that a **compliance report** has been published on the **website** and provide the weblink for the **compliance report** within 5 **business days** of the date of publication
- b) keep all **compliance reports** publicly available on the **website** until this approval expires
- c) exclude or redact **sensitive ecological data** from **compliance reports** published on the **website**
- d) where any **sensitive ecological data** has been excluded from the version published, submit the full **compliance report** to the **department** within 5 **business days** of publication.

Note 17: **Compliance reports** may be published on the **department's** website.

17 Dec 2014

35) The approval holder must provide to the **Minister** a copy of their 'Freshwater Ecotoxicity of Coal Seam Gas Stimulation Fluids' and Stimulation chemicals risk assessment reports.

11 Jan 2024	36) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	37) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	<p>37A. The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any: incident; non-compliance with the conditions; or non-compliance with the commitments made in plans. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than 2 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance. The notification must specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) any condition which is or may be in breach b) a short description of the incident and/or non-compliance c) the location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available.
11 Jan 2024	<p>37B. The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any incident or non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance, specifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future b) the potential impacts of the incident or non-compliance c) the method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.
11 Jan 2024	38) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	38A. The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the Minister .
11 Jan 2024	<p>38B. For each independent audit, the approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the department b) only commence the independent audit once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the department c) submit an audit report to the department within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria.
11 Jan 2024	38C. The approval holder must publish the audit report on the website within 10 business days of receiving the department's approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the website until the end date of this approval.

Revision of Action Management Plans	
11 Jan 2024	39) Revoked
11 Jan 2024	<p>39A. The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister for a variation to a management plan approved by the Minister, or as subsequently revised in accordance with these conditions, by submitting an application in accordance with the requirements of section 143A of the EPBC Act. If the Minister approves a revised action management plan (RAMP) then, from the date specified, the approval holder must implement the RAMP in place of the previous action management plan.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>39B. The approval holder may choose to revise an action management plan approved by the Minister in accordance with these conditions, without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the EPBC Act, if the taking of the action in accordance with the RAMP would not be likely to have a new or increased impact.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>39C. If the approval holder makes the choice under condition 39B to revise an action management plan without submitting it for approval, the approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) notify the department in writing that the approved action management plan has been revised and provide the department with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) an electronic copy of the RAMP ii) an electronic copy of the RAMP marked up with track changes to show the differences between the approved action management plan and the RAMP iii) an explanation of the differences between the approved action management plan and the RAMP iv) the reasons the approval holder considers that taking the action in accordance with the RAMP would not be likely to have a new or increased impact v) written notice of the date on which the approval holder will implement the RAMP (RAMP implementation date), being at least 20 business days after the date of providing notice of the revision of the action management plan, or a date agreed to in writing with the department. b) subject to condition 39E, implement the RAMP from the RAMP implementation date.
11 Jan 2024	<p>39D. The approval holder may revoke their choice to implement a RAMP under condition 39B at any time by giving written notice to the department. If the approval holder revokes the choice under condition 39B, the approval holder</p>

	must implement the management plan in force immediately prior to the revision undertaken under condition 39B.
11 Jan 2024	<p>39E. If the Minister gives a notice to the approval holder that the Minister is satisfied that the taking of the action in accordance with the RAMP would be likely to have a new or increased impact, then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) condition 39B does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the RAMP b) the approval holder must implement the action management plan specified by the Minister in the notice.
11 Jan 2024	<p>39F. At the time of giving the notice under condition 39E, the Minister may also notify that for a specified period of time, condition 39B does not apply for one or more specified management plans.</p> <p>Note 18: conditions 39A, 39B, 39C and 39D are not intended to limit the operation of section 143A of the EPBC Act which allows the approval holder to submit a revised management plan, at any time, to the Minister for approval.</p>
17 Dec 2014	<p>40) If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of EPBC Act listed threatened species, listed migratory species or water resources to do so, the Minister may request that the approval holder make specified revisions to the management plans specified in the conditions and submit the revised management plan for the Minister's written approval. The approval holder must comply with any such request within the timeframe specified by the Minister. The revised approved management plan must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised management plan, then the person taking the action must continue to implement the management plan originally approved, as specified in the conditions.</p>
17 Dec 2014	<p>41) If, at any time after five years from the date of this approval, the approval holder has not commenced the action, then the approval holder must not commence the action without the written agreement of the Minister.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>42) Revoked</p>

Date of decision	Definitions attached to approval
11 Jan 2024	<p>Aquatic GDEs means ecosystems dependent on the surface expression of groundwater, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • river baseflow systems, aquatic and riparian ecosystems that exist in or adjacent to streams (including the hyporheic zone) which are fed by groundwater; and • wetlands (aquatic communities and fringing vegetation dependent on groundwater-fed lakes and wetlands), including palustrine and lacustrine wetlands that receive groundwater discharge, and can include spring and swamp ecosystems.
1 May 2023	<p>Business day means a day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday in the state or territory of the Action.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>Cease groundwater extraction means to promptly discontinue all groundwater extraction from the contributing well/s.</p>
17 Dec 2014	<p>Commenced/Commencement means any physical disturbance, including clearance of native vegetation, and the establishment of well sites associated with the 'Development of Surat Basin Acreage', the subject of EPBC referral 2013/7047 and this approval.</p> <p>Commencement does not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) minor physical disturbance necessary to undertake pre-clearance surveys or establish monitoring programs or geotechnical investigations; or b) activities that are critical to commencement that are associated with mobilisation of plant and equipment, materials, machinery and personnel prior to the start of development only if such activities will have no adverse impact on matters of national environmental significance.
11 Jan 2024	<p>Compliance records means all documentation or other material in whatever form required to demonstrate compliance with the conditions of approval in the approval holder's possession or that are within the approval holder's power to obtain lawfully.</p>
11 Jan 2024	<p>Compliance report means written reports:</p> <p>providing accurate and complete details of compliance, incidents, and non-compliance with the conditions and the plans</p> <p>consistent with the department's Annual Compliance Report Guidelines (2023)</p> <p>include a shapefile of any clearance of any protected matters, or their habitat, undertaken within the relevant 12 month period</p> <p>annexing a schedule of all plans prepared and in existence in relation to the conditions during the relevant 12 month period.</p>
17 Dec 2014	<p>Conservation advice means a conservation advice approved by the Minister under the EPBC Act.</p>

17 Dec 2014	Constraints Planning and Field Development Protocol means the plan included in the QGC Preliminary Documentation Response, Development of Surat Basin Acreage (Management Plans, volume 4.0, April 2014) or a subsequent version approved in writing by the Minister .
11 Jan 2024	Contributing well means the coal seam gas development well(s) identified as, or likely to be, contributing to the exceedance of a trigger value and/or limit , in accordance with the methodology in the site-specific assessment .
17 Dec 2014	Core habitat known -means all potential habitat within 1 kilometre of known species records since 1980, confirmed sightings, and remnant regrowth and regrowth vegetation where known sightings have occurred and incorporating any subsequent sightings identified in the pre-clearance surveys .
17 Dec 2014	Core habitat potential means areas of potential habitat where on-site surveys have identified key micro-habitat values based on specific species micro-habitat features and as refined from the indicative habitat mapping for individual species in Appendix B of QGC Preliminary Documentation (22 September 2014) and incorporating any results identified in the pre-clearance surveys .
17 Dec 2014	CSG produced water means underground water from coal measures brought to the surface of the earth, or otherwise interfered with, in connection with exploring for or producing coal seam gas.
17 Dec 2014	Department means the Australian Government Department administering the EPBC Act .
17 Dec 2014	Department's survey guidelines means Matters of National Environmental Significance, Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 – http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/nes-guidelines.html . Survey Guidelines for Australia's Threatened Frogs, Threatened Birds, Threatened Fish, Threatened Mammals, Threatened Reptiles and Threatened Bats: http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/guidelines-policies.html .
11 Jan 2024	Department's Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data means the department's <i>Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data</i> (2018), or any subsequent official version or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.
17 Dec 2014	EPBC/ EPBC Act means the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth).
17 Dec 2014	EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy means the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> Environmental Offsets Policy (October 2012) including the Offsets Assessment Guide.
On the date this variation is approved	EPBC Act listed ecological community means a threatened ecological community listed under the EPBC Act .
17 Dec 2014	EPBC Act listed threatened species and communities means a threatened flora or fauna species listed under the EPBC Act .

11 Jan 2024	EPBC-listed springs means groundwater fed springs within the Surat CMA that support 'The community of native species dependent on natural discharge of groundwater from the Great Artesian Basin threatened ecological community', as listed under the EPBC Act , and/or listed threatened species and/or their habitat.
17 Dec 2014	Expert panel means an expert panel agreed to by the Minister .
11 Jan 2024	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem/s (GDE/s) means Aquatic GDEs , subterranean GDEs and terrestrial GDEs .
11 Jan 2024	Groundwater extraction means the process of extracting groundwater from an aquifer, including as a by-product of coal seam gas production.
11 Jan 2024	High risk/very high risk means the overall unmitigated risk rating in the UWIR and as otherwise determined in accordance with the relevant risk management framework/s .
17 Dec 2014	Hydraulic fracturing/fractured means a well-stimulation technique in which rock is fractured by a hydraulically pressurised liquid.
11 Jan 2024	Impact/s (verb) means to cause any measurable direct or indirect disturbance or harmful change as a result of any activity associated with the action. Impact (noun) means any measurable direct or indirect disturbance or harmful change as a result of any activity associated with the action.
11 Jan 2024	Incident means any event which has the potential to, or does, impact on one or more protected matter(s) .
11 Jan 2024	Independent audit means an audit conducted by an independent and suitably qualified person as detailed in the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines</i> (2019)
11 Jan 2024	Independent suitably qualified water resources expert means a person with at least a postgraduate degree (or equivalent) in a suitable area (such as hydrology or hydrogeology) and a minimum of 10 years relevant experience in water resources assessment, including at least one year of experience in Australia, who is independent of the suitably qualified water resources expert .
11 Jan 2024	Joint Industry Framework (JIF) means the <i>Joint Industry Framework</i> (or chosen document title) as endorsed by the department on 17 March 2021, including subsequent endorsed versions.
17 Dec 2014	Legally secure means to secure a covenant or similar legal agreement in relation to a site, to provide enduring protection for the site against developments incompatible with conservation.
11 Jan 2024	Limit means a threshold greater than a trigger value that must not be exceeded. Note: An exceedance of a limit constitutes a failure to achieve the outcome/s specified in Condition 22A and compliance actions will be implemented.
17 Dec 2014	Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) means matters protected by Division 1 of Part 3 of the EPBC Act .
17 Dec 2014	Minister means the Minister administering the EPBC Act and includes a delegate of the Minister.

17 Dec 2014	OGIA means the Queensland government Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment or its successor body.
17 Dec 2014	OGIA model means the groundwater model developed by the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment, or its successor body, for the Surat Cumulative Management Area .
11 Jan 2024	Outcomes Assurance Statement means the statement to be submitted by the approval holder to the Minister for each high risk or very high risk impact in accordance with Condition 22J and specifications in the JIF .
11 Jan 2024	Performance criteria means specific parameters, associated with and relevant to EPBC-listed springs or water resource function , that will be monitored to demonstrate that the outcome of no impact to EPBC-listed springs or no adverse effect to water resource function is being achieved, measured at a specific time and place.
17 Dec 2014	Pest and Weed Management Plan means the plan included in the QGC Preliminary Documentation Response, Development of Surat Basin Acreage (Management Plans, Volume 4.0, June 2014) or a subsequent version approved in writing by the Minister .
17 Dec 2014	Pre-clearance surveys means surveys that are undertaken prior to commencement or to removal or disturbance of vegetation that is the subject of the surveys for EPBC listed threatened species and communities for all areas of the project area that are to be disturbed by project activities.
17 Dec 2014	Project area means the area identified as the 'referral area' in <u>Attachment A</u> .
On the date this variation is approved	Plan includes a report, study, protocol, program, or strategy (however described).
On the date this variation is approved	Queensland Code of Practice for Construction and Abandoning CSG wells means the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines' code of practice for constructing and abandoning coal seam gas wells and associated bores in Queensland at Code of Practice for the construction and abandonment of petroleum wells and associated bores in Queensland
17 Dec 2014	Queensland Government authorities means authorities which have a role in regulating activities relating to water resources .
17 Dec 2014	Recovery plan means a recovery plan made or adopted by the Minister under the EPBC Act .
11 Jan 2024	Relevant risk management framework/s means as outlined in the endorsed JIF for EPBC-listed springs ; water supply bores; aquatic GDEs ; terrestrial GDEs and subterranean GDEs .
17 Dec 2014	Remediation, Rehabilitation and Recovery Monitoring Plan means the plan included in the QGC Preliminary Documentation Response, Development of Surat Basin Acreage (Management Plans, Volume 4.0, May 2014) or a subsequent version approved in writing by the Minister .

11 Jan 2024	Sensitive ecological data means data as defined in the Australian Government Department of the Environment (2016) <i>Sensitive Ecological Data – Access and Management Policy V1.0</i> .
11 Jan 2024	<p>Shapefile means a mapping file or files showing polygons outlining all site boundaries and delineating all relevant sub-zones on site. The shapefiles must use the GDA94 coordinate system, and be in either of the following formats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a KML file (file extension either '.KML' or '.KMZ'); or • a zip folder using the '.zip' file extension (other formats such as '.7z' are not acceptable), and containing a single unique occurrence of each of '.shp', '.prj', '.dbf' and '.shx' file types. <p>If a '.zip' format is used, the shapefile may also contain unique occurrences of any or all of the following file types: '.qix', '.fix', '.sld', '.sbn', '.sbx', '.lyr', '.avl', '.xml' or '.cpg'. Each polygon must be provided as a separate '.zip' or KML file.</p>
31 Oct 2017	Significant Species Management Plans (SSMP) means plans to identify and implement management measures to avoid and mitigate impacts to MNES that are known or likely to occur, included in the QGC Preliminary Documentation Response, Development of Surat Basin Acreage (Volume 2.0, January 2014) or a subsequent version approved in writing by the Minister .
11 Jan 2024	SIMS mitigation plan means the mitigation plan to be completed by approval holders as directed by the Queensland Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment and as required under section 379 of the Queensland <i>Water Act 2000</i> and endorsed by the relevant Queensland agency.
11 Jan 2024	<p>Site-specific assessment peer review means a review carried out by an independent suitably qualified water resources expert that meets the requirements specified in Section 9.4 in the JIF including the evaluation of whether the site-specific assessment required under <u>condition 22G</u> will ensure the outcomes specified under <u>condition 22A</u> will be met.</p> <p>Where inadequacies are identified by the independent suitably qualified water resources expert, the approval holder must describe in the site-specific assessment what the inadequacy is, why it has occurred and what work must be taken to rectify it.</p>
On the date this variation is approved	Subterranean GDEs means aquifer ecosystems, including stygofauna.
17 Dec 2014	Suitably qualified person means a natural person who has professional qualifications, training or skills or experience relevant to the nominated subject matters and can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis about performance relevant to the subject matters using relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature.
11 Jan 2024	Suitably qualified water resources expert means a person with at least a degree in a suitable area (such as hydrology or hydrogeology) and a minimum of 5 years

	relevant experience in water resources assessment, including at least one year of experience in Australia.
On the date this variation is approved	Surat CMA means the Surat cumulative management area declared under the Queensland <i>Water Act 2000</i> .
17 Dec 2014	Threat abatement plan means a threat abatement plan made or adopted by the Minister under the EPBC Act .
11 Jan 2024	Trigger value/s means where reached or exceeded (either through modelling or monitoring), the approval holder will implement an appropriate management response to ensure approved or interim limits are not exceeded.
11 Jan 2024	UWIR means the Office of Groundwater Impact Assessment, Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. <i>Underground Water Impact Report for the Surat Cumulative Management Area, July 2019</i> . State of Queensland, or subsequent published versions.
11 Jan 2024	<p>Water resources means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • surface water or groundwater; or • a watercourse, lake, wetland or aquifer (whether or not is currently has water in it); and <p>includes all aspects of the water resource (including water, organisms and other components and ecosystems that contribute to the physical state and environmental value of the water resource), as defined in the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth).</p>
1 May 2023	Website means a set of related web pages located under a single domain name attributed to the approval holder and available to the public.

Dec 2014

