

12 June 2024

The Secretary  
NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure  
4 Parramatta Square, 12 Darcy Street  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150

Portal Via [Project Portal](#)

ATTENTION: Steve O'Donoghue

Dear Steve,

**RE: MOOLARBEN COAL COMPLEX UG4 – SUITABLY QUALIFIED EXPERTS FOR EXTRACTION PLAN**

Moolarben Coal Operations (MCO) is currently preparing an Extraction Plan for underground mining area Underground 4 (UG4) Longwalls (LW) 409 to 414, in accordance with the requirements of Project Approval 05\_0117 for Stage 1 of the Moolarben Coal Complex.

In regard to suitably qualified and experience persons involved in the preparation of the Extraction Plan, Condition 77, Schedule 3 of Project Approval (05\_0117) states:

*The Proponent shall prepare and implement an Extraction Plan for all second workings on site to the satisfaction of the Secretary. Each extraction plan must:*

*(a) be prepared by suitably qualified and experienced persons whose appointment has been endorsed by the Secretary;*

...

The Secretary endorsed the appointment of a number of suitably qualified and experienced persons on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 for the UG4 LW409-414 Extraction Plan including Dr Emma McIntyre as the suitably qualified biodiversity expert. Dr McIntyre has since resigned from Niche Environment and Heritage.

On this basis, MCO now seeks the approval of the Secretary for the appointment of Stephen Bloomfield from Niche Environment and Heritage to replace Dr McIntyre as the suitable qualified and experienced person to prepare relevant biodiversity components of the Biodiversity Management Plan. His Curriculum Vitae is attached, with a summary provided below.

Mr Bloomfield is an Accredited Assessor under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and has more than 19 years' experience in the field of biodiversity assessments, working across both the private and government sectors. Mr Bloomfield has extensive experience managing projects and conducting field surveys throughout NSW for a range of sectors.

MCO considers that Mr Bloomfield is suitable to prepare of the relevant biodiversity components of the UG4 LW409-414 Extraction Plan.

Yours sincerely

**MOOLARBEN COAL OPERATIONS PTY LTD**

*Trent Cini*

**TRENT CINI**

Environment and Community Manager

Enclosure 1.        Mr Stephen Bloomfield 's Curriculum Vitae.



## CV

**Stephen Bloomfield**

BAppSc (Coastal Mgmt)

**Principal - Ecology**

"I aim to preserve biodiversity whilst meeting the needs of the community."

- Accredited Assessor under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- 19 years' experience as a consulting ecologist
- Comprehensive knowledge of State and Commonwealth legislation that governs impact assessments and offsetting processes
- Experienced in vegetation surveys, botanical identification and vegetation mapping
- Project management of major infrastructure projects, including roads

**Career overview**

**Stephen is a highly experienced ecologist and project manager with over 19 years' experience working across both the private and government sectors. Stephen has extensive experience undertaking and managing biodiversity assessments (including the Biodiversity Assessment Method [BAM]), Biodiversity Development Assessment Reports (BDAR), Biodiversity Stewardship Site Assessment Reports (BSSAR), vegetation surveys and mapping, monitoring and targeted threatened species surveys.**

Stephen has extensive experience managing projects and conducting field surveys throughout NSW for a range of sectors, including linear infrastructure, renewable energy, waste facilities and water infrastructure, and is experienced in botanical identification, vegetation mapping, fauna surveys and threatened species targeted surveys. He understands GIS for mapping and reporting.

Through his experience as a project manager, Stephen appreciates the importance of being present from project inception to delivery. Stephen is committed to ensuring the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act is implemented and adhered to throughout every project and understands the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme application.

**Employment history**

|                |                                                          |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 2023 - Present | Principal - Ecology, Niche Environment and Heritage      |
| 2019 - 2023    | Senior Ecology Associate, Niche Environment and Heritage |
| 2005 - 2019    | Senior Ecologist, Lesryk Environmental Pty Ltd           |
| 2018           | Research Assistant, University of Queensland             |
| 2006 - 2007    | Ecologist, Arup Consultants, UK                          |

**Skills**

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Environmental impact assessment</li><li>– Project management and delivery</li><li>– Vegetation classification and mapping</li><li>– Targeted threatened species survey</li><li>– Thorough document control</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– BAM assessments</li><li>– Microchiropteran call analysis</li><li>– Thorough understanding of Commonwealth and NSW legislative framework</li></ul> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Flagship projects****New England Tablelands NSW Windfarm BDAR (confidential project) (2022-present)**

Stephen is Project Manager for a proposed windfarm with over 100 turbines, battery storage and infrastructure, across a 9,000 ha survey area in the New England Tableland region. Stephen is responsible for client liaison, team scheduling and ensuring the requirements of the BAM (such as, vegetation mapping and targeted surveys for candidate species) are met, and the project is delivered on time. To date, Stephen has delivered a preliminary biodiversity assessment and two minor constraints assessments.



## Stephen Bloomfield

BAppSc (Coastal Mgmt)

### Principal - Ecology

#### Flagship projects

##### **Cobbora Solar Farm BDAR for AECOM on behalf of Marble Energy (2022- present)**

Stephen was Project Director for the proposed Cobbora Solar Farm (a State Significant Development [SSD]) in Central West NSW. The site covers an area of 300 ha. Key tasks included providing strategic advice to the ecology team and client and liaising with the Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD).

##### **Albion Park Quarry Stage 7 BDAR for Cleary Bros Pty Ltd (2020- present)**

Stephen assisted with the preparation/updating of the BDAR for the project, including the targeting of candidate species and calculation of offset requirements (State).

##### **Piambong Wind Farm Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment for AECOM on behalf of Vestas (2021-22)**

Stephen assisted with a preliminary biodiversity assessment for a proposed 3,000 MW wind farm near Mudgee, NSW. The assessment included preliminary field surveys, constraints identification and offset estimates to support the project's Commonwealth referral and Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) request.

##### **Subdivision and development (Stage 9), Tullimbar, BDAR for Allam Property Group (2018-2023)**

Stephen assisted with the preparation of the BDAR and Commonwealth Referral for the project which included potential impacts to the critically endangered Illawarra Lowland Grassy Woodland ecological community.

Stephen calculated the offset requirements (State) for the project and is soon to commence a Biodiversity Stewardship Site Assessment Report (BSSAR) to support the Biodiversity Stewardship Application for an adjacent property to offset Stage 9.

##### **Broken Hill Battery Storage BDAR for AECOM (2022)**

Stephen assisted with the preparation of the BDAR for the project, including the calculation of offset requirements (State), as well as liaising with the BCD and Department of Environment and Planning.

##### **Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project BDAR for Illawarra Metallurgical Coal (2021)**

Stephen project managed, conducted field surveys and produced a BDAR for the project, including the calculation of offset requirements (State).

##### **Princes Highway upgrade between Nowra and Sussex Inlet Targeted Biodiversity Study for Transport for NSW (2021)**

The project management and field survey of a 20 km section of the Princes Highway. Survey involves vegetation confirmation/mapping, habitat assessment, and targeted flora and fauna surveys and within a 400 m corridor. The undertaking of this study will inform the detailed design of the proposed upgrade.

##### **Yaparra BSSAR for the landowner (2021)**

Stephen assisted with the assessment of the Stewardship Site near north-west of Albury using the BAM method. This involved field work, preparation of the BSSAR (including the Management Plan and Total Fund Deposit), correspondence with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust and assisting the landowner with the Biodiversity Stewardship Application.

## Kamay Ferry Wharves BDAR for Transport for NSW (2020)

Two new ferry wharves are proposed within Botany Bay National Park including one at La Perouse and another at Kurnell, Sydney. Stephen led the ecological surveys and assisted with the preparation of the BDAR supporting the terrestrial biodiversity chapter for the project EIS.

## Oak Flats Intersection Upgrade BAR for Transport for NSW (2020)

Stephen project managed, conducted field surveys and produced a Biodiversity Assessment Report for the project.  
Subdivision and development, Beach Road, Berry, BDAR for Allen Price & Scarratts (2020)  
Stephen project managed, conducted field surveys and produced a BDAR (including the offset requirements) for the project.

## Publications

**Engel, D., Bloomfield, S. and Edwards, J. (2010)** A waterproofing option for Anabat detectors – protecting your tool. *Consulting Ecology*. Vol 24, pp 51-58.