

13 October 2023

Mandana Mazaheri
Principal Planning Officer
Resource Assessments
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
4 Parramatta Square,
12 Darcy Street,
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150
Submitted via Email
Your Ref: MP06_0295

Dear Mandana,

Cadia Valley Operations | Modification 14 | Biodiversity Credit Retirement | Current Status

Overview

Cadia Holdings Pty Ltd (CHPL) is required to retire biodiversity credits identified in Schedule 3, Clause 40B of Project Approval 06_0295 (Modification 14). Subsequently, CHPL is currently in the process of creating a Biodiversity Stewardship Site (BSS) on portions of properties it owns known as Caringle and Tunbridge Wells (see **Figure 1**).

Following completion of all required ecological assessments, the proposed BSS will generate 576 ecosystem credits (550 for PCT 266 & PCT 277), 355 Superb Parrot credits and 577 Squirrel Glider credits. The biodiversity credits generated by the proposed BSS have resulted in a deficit of 5 ecosystem credits (associated with PCT 266) and 90 species credits associated with the Superb Parrot that are required to be retired under Modification 14.

Following CHPL's letter dated 16 August 2023 (Cadia_MOD 14_Biodiversity Credit Retirement) submitted via the Major Projects Portal, the retirement of the credits in deficit has now been completed (see attached Section 6.33 Certificate).

The process and current assessment status of creating the new BSS to retire the remaining credits generated by Modification 14 is discussed below.

Status

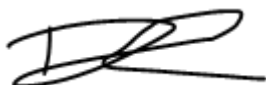
The status of the BSS application process is identified in **Table 1** below:

Table 1 Current Status of Proposed BSS

Component	Date
Ecological assessment completed, data review, and all required reports prepared.	December 2021 – June 2023.
The Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA) application, including the Biodiversity Stewardship Site Assessment Report (BSSAR) & associated documentation (Management Plan, BAM-C, TFD and spatial data) submitted to the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT).	15 June 2023.
Initial submission review feedback was received from CST. Assessment able to proceed whilst elements of the requested data are being completed (currently ongoing).	13 July 2023
A payment into the BCF for the deficit credits (5 ecosystem credits and 90 Superb Parrot Credits) was made on 9 August 2023 and executed by the Biodiversity Conservation Fund (BCF) (see attached Section 6.44 certificate). The outstanding credits in deficit are now retired.	15 August 2023
CST conducted site visit to conduct a ground truthing assessment of the proposed BSS	24 August 2024
CST reviewed and provided feedback on the BSSAR and associated documents – received by Cadia. The feedback currently being reviewed by Cadia and engaged BAM qualified ecologist (Premise).	20 September 2023.
BAM review (by CST)	Proposed completion by 3 November 2023
Agreement Drafting and Review (by CST)	Proposed 10 November 2023
Landholder Signing Package	Proposed completion by 24 November 2023
Agreement Execution, Registration, Credit Issue and Handover	Proposed completion by 22 December 2023

Should you have any further queries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact David McQueeney (Senior Environmental Advisor) on 0456 477 583 or via email at david.mcqueeney@newcrest.com.au.

Yours sincerely,



David Coe

Manager Environment and Social Performance – Cadia Valley Operations

Attachment – Section 6.33 Certificate



Figure 1: Proposed Location of Biodiversity Stewardship Site

Legend

- Proposed Biodiversity Stewardship Site Boundary
- Project Approval Boundary



0 0.75 1.5 Km



Statement confirming payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund for an offset obligation

Pursuant to section 6.33 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*, the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust confirms that the following payments have been made into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund under section 6.30(1) of the Act to satisfy an obligation to retire biodiversity credits.

Payment made by		Cadia Holdings Pty Limited			
Date received		15 August 2023			
NSW statutory obligation reference ¹		PA 06_0295 (Modification 14)			
Commonwealth EPBC Act controlled action reference (if applicable) ²		N/A			
BCT Reference		BCF579			
Biodiversity credit retirement obligations satisfied by payment to the Biodiversity Conservation Fund:					
Biodiversity credit type (Credit ID and name)	Offset trading group	EPBC Act Controlled Action offset obligation (Y / N)	Number of credits	Cost per credit (Exc. GST)	Total payment per credit type (Exc. GST)
266 - White Box grassy woodland in the upper slopes sub-region of the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion	White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland in the NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, SE Highlands, NSW SW Slopes, South East Corner and Riverina Bioregions	N	5	\$5,224.50	\$26,122.50
10645 - <i>Polytelis swainsonii</i> (Superb Parrot)	<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i> (Superb Parrot)	N	90	\$3,738.42	\$336,457.80
Total (Exc. GST)					\$362,580.30
GST					\$36,258.03
Total (Inc. GST)					\$398,838.33

Emily McCosker 17/08/2023

Director Strategy & Finance

¹ This refers to either; a development application number for a development consent under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), a State significant infrastructure approval under the previous Part 5.1 (now Part 5, Division 5.2) of the EP&A Act, a decision of a determining authority to carry out or approve the carrying out of an activity under Part 5 of the EP&A Act, or a biobank statement number or biodiversity certification number.

² This refers to a controlled action under the Commonwealth *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for which a biodiversity offset obligation has been met through payment into the BCF.